Nov. 22?

JOHN BULL

Vol. XV. No. 390. SATURDAY. NOVEMBER 22. 1913 ONE PENNY

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For meaning of this No. see page 788.

The world is a bundle of hay;
Mankind are the asses who pull;
Each tugs it a different way,
And the greatest of all is John Bull

—BYRON.

Edited by
HORATIO BOTTOMLEY.

LAST CHANCE TO WIN £1,750 FOOTBALL PRIZE AGAIN.

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FOOTBALL SKILL CONTEST No. 5.

"JOHN BULL" ENTRANCE FORM.

Matches to be played Saturday, Nov. 29.

Cross out—in ink—what you think will be the losing club. For a draw do not cross out either club.

West Bromwich Albion	v.	Everton
Sheffield Wednesday	v.	Sunderland
Bolton Wanderers	v.	Blackburn Rovers
Chelsea	v.	Bradford City
Oldham Athletic	v.	Manchester City
Manchester United	v.	Derby County
Burnley	v.	Sheffield United
Preston North End	v.	Middlesbrough
Newcastle United	v.	Aston Villa
Liverpool	v.	Tottenham H.
Birmingham	v.	Grimsby Town
Bradford	v.	Bury
Bristol City	v.	Woolwich Arsenal
Clapton Orient	v.	Blackpool
Leeds City	v.	Notts. Forest
Leicester Fosse	v.	Hull City
Notts County	v.	Barnsley
Wolverhampton W.	v.	Fulham
Brighton & Hove	v.	Bristol Rovers
Northampton	v.	West Ham
Exeter City	v.	Queen's Park R.

I enter "JOHN BULL" Football Competition in accordance with the rules announced on this page and agree to accept the Editor's published decision as final and legally binding, and enter on that understanding.

Signed.....

Address.....

.....

5

Entrance Forms must be cut, not torn out.

1. On the Entrance Form attached, cross out in ink, by running a pen through the names, the teams you think will lose. If you predict a DRAW do not cross out either team.

2. Having done this, write in ink (typewriting or pencilling will not do) your name and address in the space provided, cut out the Entrance Form, and address it to "**John Bull,**" **25, Floral Street, Covent Garden, London, W.C.,** mark envelope in top left-hand corner, **Football Competition No. 5,** so as to reach us not later than first post Friday, November 28th.

3. The sum of £1,750 will be awarded to the competitor whose entrance form contains the correct results as published in the *Sporting Life* of all the matches given, played to a finish on November 29th. Should it happen that no entrance form be received giving the whole of the correct results a cash prize of £500 will be paid to the competitor whose coupon shows ONE ERROR ONLY. If neither the £1,750 nor the £500 is won we shall in any event award four distinct cash prizes which must be won—£300 to the competitor sending the most correct forecasts, £100 to the sender of the next highest number of correct forecasts, and two special Mauve Coupon prizes, one of £50 to the sender of most correct forecasts on a Mauve Coupon taken from MARY BULL, and one of £20 for the next highest correct forecasts on a Mauve Coupon. If the sender of a Mauve Coupon should win or share the £1,750, £500, the £300 or the £100, the two MARY BULL prizes will be awarded for the two next most correct forecasts sent on Mauve Coupons.

4. No responsibility will be accepted by the Editor for the loss or non-delivery of any effort. No correspondence will be entered into, neither will interviews be granted.

5. Any effort on which any alteration has been made will be disqualified.

6. In the event of a tie or ties, the Cash Prize of £1,750, the £500, or the Contingent Prizes of £300 and £100, as well as the special Mauve Coupon prizes of £50 and £20 will be equally divided.

7. Our employees are strictly debarred from entering this contest.

THE CLOSING DATE IS FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 28th.

DUPLICATE COUPON.

The following duplicate list of the matches is printed solely for the convenience of competitors desirous of keeping a record of their efforts. It must on no account be sent in, and will not be accepted as proof of forecasts made on the Entrance Form.

West B. Albion	v.	Everton	Birmingham	v.	Grimsby T.
Sheffield W.	v.	Sunderland	Bradford	v.	Bury
Bolton W.	v.	Blackburn R.	Bristol C.	v.	Woolwich A.
Chelsea	v.	Bradford C.	Clapton Orient	v.	Blackpool
Oldham A.	v.	Manchester C.	Leeds City	v.	Notts Forest
Manchester U.	v.	Derby C.	Leicester Fosse	v.	Hull City
Burnley	v.	Sheffield U.	Notts County	v.	Barnsley
Preston N.E.	v.	Middlesbro'	Wolverhampton	v.	Fulham
Newcastle U.	v.	Aston Villa	Brighton & H.	v.	Bristol R.
Liverpool	v.	Tottenham H	Northampton'	v.	West Ham
			Exeter City	v.	Q.P. Rangers

JOHN BULL.

Politics without Party—Criticism without Cant:
Without Fear or Favour, Rancour or Rant.

Vol. XV. No. 390. Week ending Saturday, November 22nd, 1913. One Penny.

IMPORTANT NOTICE.

Letters must be addressed to the Editor or the Publisher, according to whether they relate to Editorial or Publishing matters. All **FINANCIAL, INSURANCE** *and* **SPORTING** *inquiries should be addressed to the* **CITY OFFICES, 52, NEW BROAD STREET, E.C.** *All other communications should be addressed to* **93, LONG ACRE, LONDON, W.C.**

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THE WORLD, THE FLESH, AND THE DEVIL.

[*The Editor discourses upon passing events and topics of the day.*]

The Great Liberator.

Mr. McKenna, the Home Secretary, will go down to posterity as the Great Liberator. He is always letting somebody or the other out of prison—suffragettes, signalmen and seditionists! But, of course, the interests of Party have nothing to do with it. *What* a game it is!

A Very Irish "Conference."

Lord Loreburn says, "Let's have a Conference on Home Rule." "And so we will," says Carson, "provided we are not asked to violate our Solemn Covenant." And "Bedad," says Redmond, "I'm agreeable—*provided we are not asked to violate our solemn pledge.*" And there you are! Meanwhile the Government says, "Let us go on as we are; there is no hurry. Buckmaster has saved the situation, so that, at any rate, we'll have another session—and see what happens." Of course, as a matter of fact, nothing *will* happen. Carson will tire—and none of the others who count will risk the smash up of the Party game.

Severe Rebuke.

By the way, did you notice that in dealing with Sir Edward Carson the other day Mr. Churchill said there was a time when the language and methods now being used in Ulster would have been regarded as "hateful and shocking"? That was the worst he could say about it. But he was more correct than was Tay Pay, who characterised the present Ulster campaign as "blackmail." Blackmail is illegal—and you "can't catch Carson." Otherwise, Mr. McKenna would lock him up—and let him out—in no time; like "the noble Duke of York," of whom we have all heard.

If Only——!

But does it occur to you that if only there were a real Labour Party in the House of Commons to-day, the workers, as they are called, could just now get anything they liked to ask for? You may abuse Lord Murray as much as you like, but he never did a cleverer thing for his Party than when he nobbled Ramsay Macdonald

It's Coming.

The Premier's story of dissension in C.B.'s Cabinet over the construction of a line of Juvenal was capital fun, and it vastly tickled his hearers. Poor old C.B.; he had a hard time, and acquitted himself with substantial credit after all! Some day soon the people will wake up to the fact that the capacity of Ministers to appraise a classic extract is of trifling moment, and practical knowledge of the affairs of a Business community will then be the sole passport to Cabinet rank. C.B.'s memorable "Enough of this foolery" was but an angry Party protest. It may yet attain immortality as the epitaph of the system which he transiently adorned.

"Vot You Buy?"

The political bargain sale is proceeding apace, and the Tories will have to furbish up their electoral stock in trade if they are to put up a successful show against the glittering wares of the Ministerial packman. With the instinct of the born salesman, who has always something better in the basket, the Chancellor of the Exchequer has not yet disclosed his programme in its gorgeous entirety, but a goodly glimpse has been vouchsafed to wistful eyes. Cheaper freights and lower rents for farmers, fixity of tenure, higher wages for labourers, cheap cottages for everybody, security for town-tenants and relief from onerous exactions—all at a wave of the ministerial wand. On the other side, we are promised better trade, small holdings, Imperial unity, and Heaven knows what else. *What* a game it is!

Teutonic Triumphs.

The elevation of Prince Frederic William of Wied to the brand new throne of Albania will be widely interpreted as a further manifestation of Teutonic influence in South Eastern Europe. The new monarch, a minor German princeling of the type dear to producers of light opera, enters the Balkan area as the all but professed nominee of the Triple Alliance, yet with the tacit approval of the rest of the European Concert. The British Government has so far manifested scant interest in the constitution of the Albanian State, perhaps from a conviction of its powerlessness to thwart the machinations of Vienna and Berlin. It is impossible to predict the sequel of the present truce of exhaustion, but it cannot be denied that a disquieting measure of success has hitherto attended the efforts of Teutonic diplomacy in the Near East.

For Result of Football Competition No. 4, see page 761.

Scene Shifting.

In his Bedford and Swindon orations, the Chancellor maintained a fairly high controversial tone, but there was a noticeable recrudescence of Limehousing in the Middlesbrough speech. This phenomenon is susceptible of easy explanation. The farmers and labourers of the shires detect little resemblance between the landowner—their neighbour and often their friend—and the black-hearted brigand of Radical perorations. Their sympathy can best be enlisted by language which gently dismisses the squire as an honest and well-meaning gentleman, who must be delicately assisted to develop his latent graces of character and disposition. But for the Radical stalwarts of the industrial North stronger fare is required. The amiable patron of rural industry must there make way for a fictitious monster of diabolic aspect, with horns and tail complete. Such transformations are but child's play to the arch-wizard of the Ministerial troupe.

Hot Stuff.

Invective, said by Disraeli to be an ornament of debate, seems, too, to have attained high expression among our Canadian cousins. In the course of his recent tour, Mr. Herbert Samuel appears to have made certain critical references to educational arrangements in the State of Manitoba, whereat Sir Rodmond Roblin, the Provincial Premier, delivers himself thus:—"Therefore when you see, for instance, a meddlesome, impudent, slanderous Samuel, who by accident holds a portfolio in the British Government, making a false statement at the dictation of a small grit coterie, who stuffed this jellybag Englishman so that he was willing to make false statements which he knew to be false, you will know what to do." Our flesh duly creeps. Fancy calling a great Minister of the Crown by such names! Yet, after all, he is only our Postman!

Step up Higher.

Mr. Churchill's attempt to infuse new blood into the commissioned branch of the Navy by the elevation of suitable "rankers" will command a large measure of public sympathy. Coupled with the advertised reduction of fees for cadet training at Osborne and Dartmouth, it indicates a decision to widen the area of choice in the selection of officers. That notable executive talent may thus be discovered is scarcely matter for doubt. Meanwhile, familiar objections to the experiment have lost none of their weight. The habits and traditions of the Service impose onerous sumptuary laws upon its officers, while important disciplinary considerations are involved in the transfer of men from the ranks to the quarter-deck. We have confidence that due weight will be given to these points and that the reforming zeal of the First Lord will be tempered with a sound discretion.

Urgent!

Whatever fate may be in store for the more ornate projects of the Ministerial Land Scheme, we trust that its housing suggestions will receive dispassionate consideration from men of all shades of opinion. The problem has a dual aspect, and it is unlikely that remedies appropriate to rural conditions will be found equally applicable to congested urban areas. We have frequently laid stress upon the growing urgency, both in town and country, of a problem which affords fine scope for the energy and initiative of social reformers of every school. In attempting its solution, Ministers will doubtless be brought into sharp collision with powerful vested interests. They will be well advised to resist the pressure of extremists and to formulate a policy which will command the sympathy of practical men.

A Bar to Truth.

The coroner's jury charged with inquiry into the circumstances of the Waterloo train smash were again embarrassed by a sense of the possible criminal consequences of their verdict. In the result the catastrophe was emphatically declared to have been due to "the negligence of Signalman Moore," but this far-reaching statement was promptly qualified by the studied pronouncement that the signalman's error was "not committed with felonious intent." This finding was obviously intended to save Moore from the unhappy experience of Driver Caudle, and it is more than likely that the jury were hampered in their work by sympathy for the signalman who had honestly confessed to a disastrous lapse. It is, we repeat, regrettable that the issues presented to coroners' juries should be complicated in this fashion. In the existing conditions of criminal administration, there is no real reason why the findings of an inquest, except perhaps in the case of murder, should automatically involve criminal consequences. It is extremely unlikely that Caudle would have been prosecuted had the matter been left to the discretion of the authorities.

Our Whip!

Our remarks on the case of Gladys Ottwell, whose child was born in the streets of Burton-on-Trent and whom certain officials of the workhouse would not admit except after long delay, has been promptly followed by a Local Government Board demand on the Burton Board of Guardians for full particulars of the distressing affair. "They have read JOHN BULL!" exclaimed a member at the meeting. Of course they have. JOHN BULL is received with a respect almost amounting to reverential awe in all the Government Departments. On publishing day Ministers could not eat their breakfasts without it, and we *have* heard that some of them don't eat very well when they get it. Our hanging articles have put Mr. McKenna and Mr Buxton off their food to such an extent that they are now reported to be consulting a diet specialist, in order to be informed of something which will stay on their stomachs at the sight of a rope!

An Enduring Horror.

Another *preventable* cage mishap has cost the lives of three miners in the Bromley pit, Stanton Drew, Somerset. In our recent indictment of Home Office administration, we insisted upon the proved existence of efficient safety appliances which would render impossible such fatalities as that to which we now direct attention. But human life is cheap and dividends are dear, and so with tragic monotony the terrible tale of death and disaster is permitted to drag on. And when the next strike comes—it's coming fast—respectable persons will prate of the unreason of the miners and of their wanton disrespect for law and order! The wonder is that, knowing what they do, they do not break out into frenzied revolt.

Man and the Machine.

Lord Curzon is right—"The power of the Parliamentary Whips and the tyranny of the Party machine have grown so immensely that there is little opening for independence in politics." In Party politics it is not the man who works the mill, but the mill which grinds the man. Scrap the Party machine, and the Party man is scrapped with it. Lord Curzon himself sees all this, and yet he is a partisan of partisans, who would as little think of resisting the Tory caucus as he would think of flying to the moon. It is only by determined resistance, by sacking the Whips and smashing up the wheels, that the day of Business Government for our nation will come.

Do you want a Christmas Turkey? See page 794.

Elwy and Clwyd Fishery Board Licences.

Quoting in full our recent observations on the licences issued by the Elwy and Clwyd Fishery Board, the *Fishing Gazette* thinks we must have been caught napping because we did not specially emphasise the fact that the licence states that the holder may fish if he is "otherwise entitled to fish." The point is that a stranger at the Castle Hotel, buying his licence there assumes he is in a place where he *is* otherwise entitled to fish; when he pays his 2s. nothing is explained to him to the contrary; and when he is stopped from fishing, and the Clerk coolly informs him, though in more official language, that he will see him from the Vale of Clwyd to Jericho before he will return the licence-money, he naturally feels that he has not only been fooled but that he has been defrauded into the bargain. There has been no napping on our part. In fact, our contemporary itself proves we had our eyes open, in saying that "JOHN BULL, with his round million circulation, could do a lot of good by getting fishery boards to do what some already do, namely, make it quite clear, by printing the words 'otherwise entitled to fish' in larger black type or underlining them, that the licence is not a permit to fish anywhere." But even that is not enough. There is a legal cast about the phraseology which it would take many people a long time to think out; what is needed is some such wording as this, printed in black or red capital letters across the licence: "NOTICE.—This licence is not in itself a permit to fish in any waters in which the holder is not or has not been authorised to fish by payment or otherwise."

A Vacant Fortune.

Judge Harrington, of the Wandsworth County Court, has decreed that a lady who chooses to skewer her hat to her hair with an elongated spike which is the terror of all beholders, is legally liable for any damage which may arise. A damsel who, in entering a 'bus, had inadvertently jabbed her pin into the cheek of another woman, narrowly missing her eye, was mulcted in damages to the tune of £3. In extenuation of her negligence in not using a guard for the point of the pin, the defendant declared that she had dozens of them, but they had all come off in use and were thus ineffective. Should County Court judges in general emulate his Honour of Wandsworth, there will be a fortune for the genius who can invent a protection which won't come off. We present the tip to an ingenious public.

Cautious Councils.

We have little doubt that the Crystal Palace will one day become the property of the nation, but it is a pity that the present scheme of purchase should be hindered and jeopardised by the recalcitrance of certain Borough Councils whose support is vital to its success. The apathy of these authorities is perhaps traceable to uncertainty as to the terms upon which the ratepayers will enjoy access to the amenities of the Palace. In pressing for payment before disclosing at least a tentative plan of administration, the Trustees of the Fund appear to be putting the cart before the horse. There is little doubt that the municipal subsidies will be readily forthcoming once ratepayers are assured of a tangible *quid pro quo*.

Stirred to Action.

In recent issues we have dealt on more than one occasion with the sweating of nurses at the Holborn Union Infirmary. We are pleased to hear that, immediately after our last paragraph, a special meeting of the Guardians was called, with the result that ten trained nurses have been added to the staff. We are glad to have been of service in the matter.

Cambridge Mayor as Censor.

It looks as though Mr. W. H. Francis, the Mayor of Cambridge, is growing rather too fast for his boots. He recently took exception to certain films, Dante's "Inferno" and "From the Cradle to the Cross," which a local cinema manager proposed to exhibit; indeed he went so far as to write a letter from the Guildhall, the last paragraph of which made the extraordinary threat, "I might perhaps add that if the exhibitions did take place I feel sure that any renewal of your licence by the Justices in the future would be refused at once." That this letter is impertinent, unwarrantable officiousness on the part of his Worship is obvious, for first he interferes without right, and then pledges his fellow-magistrates to a threat which they have not authorised him to make, and which would be a scandalous prejudgment if carried out. The snub this mayoral censor of other people's innocuous amusements received from his fellow-magistrates when the character of the films came to be considered by them was not as effective as it might have been made, for half voted one way and half the other. It did prove, at any rate, that he was very much too cock-a-hoop, for of course the division of opinion left the manager to his own devices. It would be a public danger, not a public protection, if his Worship were allowed with impunity to constitute himself an entertainment censor and threaten the licence of entertainments by pledging in advance, without even a by-your-leave, the votes of his magisterial colleagues.

Black and White.

That attack on a coloured man at Spalding railway station—apparently for no other reason than that he was black and his wife was white—by a dozen field labourers, was a scandalous business. A member of the French Academy once said that what was not clear was not French, and in a paraphrase we might say that what is not fair is not English. These ruffians not only attacked the man with their fists, but with their feet and sticks as well. In this country, if anywhere, a black ought to feel secure against outrage and offence, for England is, if not the mother, at any rate the ruler and protector of many coloured races, black, brown, red and yellow—all citizens of its world-wide Empire. What, then, are the dark subjects of our King to think of a people, boasting its justice, its tolerance and its freedom, among whom such an unprovoked persecution is possible? The cowards would not have been punished more than they deserved if they had been sent to prison, but the Spalding Magistrates took a merciful view and inflicted small fines without comment. Elsewhere the prisoners might not have been so lucky.

Doctors in Default.

Three medical men incurred severe censure at the hands of a coroner's jury who investigated the death in child-birth of Mrs. Edith Knights, of Waltham Cross. The most flagrant disregard of the call of humanity was that of Dr. Best, who actually coldly and insistently demanded his fee in advance when summoned by messenger to the bedside of the dying woman. Not content with an assurance that the money would be forthcoming, this ornament of the faculty pleaded a cold as an excuse for non-attendance. The conduct of Doctors McClymont and Halsted, the first of whom "saw no reason to attend," despite the messenger's insistence upon the desperate position of the patient was scarcely less reprehensible. We cordially endorse the severe strictures of the coroner's jury. Once more we appeal to the General Medical Council, who surely cannot be indifferent to such grave breaches of professional decorum.

1,750 Football Contest LAST COUPON. See page ii. of cover.

When Priests Fall Out.

The Rev. H. J. Martin, Vicar of Holy Trinity, Brompton, Chatham—with whose name our readers will be familiar—has evidently heard the story of the old reprobate country squire who was constantly being brought to book by his rector for his various delinquencies. Week after week from the pulpit the parson pointedly referred to this conduct, but the old *roué* seemed rather to enjoy the castigation; but when the rev. gentleman changed his tactics, and offered up a fervent prayer for the hardened sinner, that settled it. A dispute which is somewhat of a parallel to the story has been going on between the Rev. Mr. Martin and the Bishop of Rochester, and all attempts to soften the learned prelate's heart having failed, the Vicar added the following petition to the Litany at a Special Intercession Service:

> That it may please Thee to move the heart of John Reginald, Bishop of this diocese, to help his church and its vicar. That it may please Thee to turn him from hardness of heart and lack of sympathy . . . That it may please Thee to arouse him to a stronger sense of duty and justice, and not to forget the responsibility of his high calling.

We suppose the Bishop will put in a counter-petition, after which there will be a rejoinder from the Vicar—and so the game will go merrily on. Bnt how embarrassing it must be to Providence!

Whitehaven Revelations.

How true it is that one half of the world doesn't know how the other half lives! In the course of an inquest held on an old woman who has been burned to death in her house by the upsetting of a lamp, the Whitehaven Coroner questioned the son. Coroner: "How many beds are there?" Son: "One." Coroner: "Where is that bed?" Son: "Upstairs." Coroner: "Who occupied it?" Son: "Me and my mother." Coroner: "How long have you done that?" Son: "All my life." Coroner: "May I ask what age you are?" Son: "43." Coroner: "And you have slept with your mother all that time?" Son: "Yes" Coroner: "Do you think that was proper or desirable?" Son: "It was all right all my life as far as I thought about it." It reads like a dialogue out of "La Terre." Yet there it is, in English, in England, by Englishmen. It "was all right as far as he thought about it"! And we send missions to the heathen!

Take a Biscuit.

Councillor J. Dewhurst, Blackpool's newly chosen Mayor, has refused to furnish the banquet which from time immemorial has marked the inauguration of its Mayoral reign. The amiable Councillor declares that he has not attended a civic dinner for fourteen years, on account of the "guzzling" which disgraces these functions. If, as we surmise, the chosen of Blackpool is of the aqua-puritan persuasion, it is surely a pity that he has so long deprived his wassailing colleagues of that chaste example which his sainted presence might afford. In any case, it is regrettable that a pleasing social custom should be abrogated on account of the dyspeptic foibles of a single eccentric. In justice to Mr. Dewhurst, it should be recorded that he has invited any who may be "so dispoged" to partake with him in the Mayor's parlour of biscuits and ginger pop.

Whitley Bay Sunday Golfers.

The lamentation of a Whitley Bay minister at the Newcastle Presbytery the other night was that he perceives playing golf on Sundays many persons who should be in their pews at his church. Far be it from us to probe the raw; but in his place, if we had to make a confession of that kind, we should certainly regard ourselves as bunkered.

Blood, Fire, and Waste Water.

Apropos of sweating by the Salvation Army, it is not generally known that that holy fraternity are perhaps the largest waste-paper merchants in the world; without any exaggeration they must make hundreds of pounds sterling a week profit in this department alone. Probably very little of the waste-paper they collect is sold to mills in England; certainly a very great deal of it goes to France, Germany, America, and other foreign countries. As a rule, waste paper merchants in England employ women sorters at from 12s. to 14s. a week, this wage being as much as the trade will stand, "but," says the mill agent and contractor who is our informant, "the Salvation Army employ men at half the wages we pay women. We have been clearing firms for the last twenty years, and each year we have had to raise the price until obliged to give them up. In one case we paid a firm £5 and the Salvation Army came along and paid this same firm double; so you see there must be some fearful sweating somewhere." What has the Officer in Command of the Salvation Army's waste paper department to say?

"Manners Makyth Man."

Dialogue in the Bristol Police Court between Mr. Wookey, Deputy Chief Constable, and Mr. Ayles, a Socialist councillor, applying for an extension of time on the occasion of a Saturday night dance in the Kingsley Hall: "Mr. Wookey: For whom do you apply? Mr. Ayles: For the I.L.P.; I represent as Secretary. Mr Wookey: Have you any authority to apply for this licence now? Mr. Ayles: I have. Mr. Wookey: In writing? Mr. Ayles: No. Mr. Wookey: Then I say I don't believe you. . . . I say you are a liar to your face." Mr. Wookey should really keep his wool on, for charity suffereth long and is kind; doth not behave itself unseemly, is not easily provoked; beareth all things, believeth all things, hopeth all things, endureth all things. A policeman should not use such shocking language in such a place. He should patiently wait until his opponent and critic does something horrid and then run him in with the utmost rigour of the law.

New Medical Register at Hull.

According to the *Hull and Lincolnshire News*, "The new list of avoidable doctors and approved institutions for 1914 can be seen in the nearest post office." The idea seems excellent. Not only in Hull, but in London and other places, a list of avoidable doctors is a long-felt want.

Long-Winded Credit.

Meanwhile, it would be nothing special to make a speech about were Mr. Lloyd George to pay his unavoidable doctors; it is a thundering shame that he keeps them out of their money. The third quarter is now overdue, and this is what the wife of a panel doctor writes to us:—"We have not got all the first quarter's payment, nor any of the second or third quarter's, and my husband has all his drugs to buy and make up, as we are eight miles from any chemist. We have given up keeping a horse, have parted with the groom, and have now only quite a young girl as 'general.' I have had to take in paying guests, so that my husband and I are working as hard as it is possible for any two people to work, and he does not get a penny for it. One of the doctors told us on Sunday that he wrote nearly every week, but never got an answer to his letters. . . ." It is beyond all reason to compel doctors to work on this long-winded credit. A deputation of medical men should formally tackle the Sinner about it. If the cashier were to be as slow in paying him his £1,250 a quarter there would be no end of a row.

"John and Mary" will be on sale December 5th.

Compliment—or Portent?

As Dr. Macnamara, Financial Secretary to the Admiralty, stood with his wife, who christened the vessel, among the officials and guests at the launching of the British oil-driven cruiser *Arethusa* at Chatham, did they notice that they had for their canopy, of all flags in the world, the—Imperial Ensign of Germany? Was it a chance "lie" of the flags common to these auspicious occasions, or was it a compliment on the part of the British Admiralty to our great naval rival in sea power, or—was it a portent of things to be?

Another Naughty Boy.

Apropos of our recent references to the mysterious appearance of the name of Peterboro's Chief Constable amongst the prizewinners in Messrs. Smallman and Terry's St. Leger Sweepstake, we are reminded that, in connection with another "Sweep" on the same race, the winner of a £1,000 prize was Mr. G. W. Webb, J.P., of Reading, Chairman of the Borough Justices—and a terror to the little street bookmaker. It merely means that it is naughty to gamble—at home!

Brighton Brigands.

Every lover of dear old Brighton will hear with disgust that there is a movement on foot to abolish the Aquarium and erect in its place—incidentally spoiling one of the finest sea views—a huge block of buildings, comprising an altogether unwanted new music hall, swimming-bath, tea-room, and, worst of all, a medicated bath—the latter being a horrid German importation calculated to ruin the town. Mr. Harry Preston, of the Royal York Hotel, is leading the opposition to the mad scheme, and everyone desirous of scotching it should back him up.

The Week's "Chestnut."

During the recent visit of the French President there was a French Royalist in the crowd as the procession passed by; and when Monsieur Poincaré appeared he yelled *"A bas le President,"* accompanying his exclamation with vigorous gesticulations. Two British workmen were standing by, and said one to the other: "Blimme, Bill, how pleased he is to see him!"

RESULT OF OUR FOURTH GREAT FOOTBALL COMPETITION.

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Another "Bullets" Record. 6,173 Prizes, value over £2,000, now offered weekly.

When Priests Fall Out.

The Rev. H. J. Martin, Vicar of Holy Trinity, Brompton, Chatham—with whose name our readers will be familiar—has evidently heard the story of the old reprobate country squire who was constantly being brought to book by his rector for his various delinquencies. Week after week from the pulpit the parson pointedly referred to this conduct, but the old *roué* seemed rather to enjoy the castigation; but when the rev. gentleman changed his tactics, and offered up a fervent prayer for the hardened sinner, that settled it. A dispute which is somewhat of a parallel to the story has been going on between the Rev. Mr. Martin and the Bishop of Rochester, and all attempts to soften the learned prelate's heart having failed, the Vicar added the following petition to the Litany at a Special Intercession Service:

> That it may please Thee to move the heart of John Reginald, Bishop of this diocese, to help his church and its vicar. That it may please Thee to turn him from hardness of heart and lack of sympathy . . . That it may please Thee to arouse him to a stronger sense of duty and justice, and not to forget the responsibility of his high calling.

We suppose the Bishop will put in a counter-petition, after which there will be a rejoinder from the Vicar—and so the game will go merrily on. Bnt how embarrassing it must be to Providence!

Whitehaven Revelations.

How true it is that one half of the world doesn't know how the other half lives! In the course of an inquest held on an old woman who has been burned to death in her house by the upsetting of a lamp, the Whitehaven Coroner questioned the son. Coroner: "How many beds are there?" Son: "One." Coroner: "Where is that bed?" Son: "Upstairs." Coroner: "Who occupied it?" Son: "Me and my mother." Coroner: "How long have you done that?" Son: "All my life." Coroner: "May I ask what age you are?" Son: "43." Coroner: "And you have slept with your mother all that time?" Son: "Yes" Coroner: "Do you think that was proper or desirable?" Son: "It was all right all my life as far as I thought about it." It reads like a dialogue out of "La Terre." Yet there it is, in English, in England, by Englishmen. It "was all right as far as he thought about it"! And we send missions to the heathen!

Take a Biscuit.

Councillor J. Dewhurst, Blackpool's newly chosen Mayor, has refused to furnish the banquet which from time immemorial has marked the inauguration of its Mayoral reign. The amiable Councillor declares that he has not attended a civic dinner for fourteen years, on account of the "guzzling" which disgraces these functions. If, as we surmise, the chosen of Blackpool is of the aqua-puritan persuasion, it is surely a pity that he has so long deprived his wassailing colleagues of that chaste example which his sainted presence might afford. In any case, it is regrettable that a pleasing social custom should be abrogated on account of the dyspeptic foibles of a single eccentric. In justice to Mr. Dewhurst, it should be recorded that he has invited any who may be "so dispoged" to partake with him in the Mayor's parlour of biscuits and ginger pop.

Whitley Bay Sunday Golfers.

The lamentation of a Whitley Bay minister at the Newcastle Presbytery the other night was that he perceives playing golf on Sundays many persons who should be in their pews at his church. Far be it from us to probe the raw; but in his place, if we had to make a confession of that kind, we should certainly regard ourselves as bunkered.

Blood, Fire, and Waste Water.

Apropos of sweating by the Salvation Army, it is not generally known that that holy fraternity are perhaps the largest waste-paper merchants in the world; without any exaggeration they must make hundreds of pounds sterling a week profit in this department alone. Probably very little of the waste-paper they collect is sold to mills in England; certainly a very great deal of it goes to France, Germany, America, and other foreign countries. As a rule, waste paper merchants in England employ women sorters at from 12s. to 14s. a week, this wage being as much as the trade will stand, "but," says the mill agent and contractor who is our informant, "the Salvation Army employ men at half the wages we pay women. We have been clearing firms for the last twenty years, and each year we have had to raise the price until obliged to give them up. In one case we paid a firm £5 and the Salvation Army came along and paid this same firm double; so you see there must be some fearful sweating somewhere." What has the Officer in Command of the Salvation Army's waste paper department to say?

"Manners Makyth Man."

Dialogue in the Bristol Police Court between Mr. Wookey, Deputy Chief Constable, and Mr. Ayles, a Socialist councillor, applying for an extension of time on the occasion of a Saturday night dance in the Kingsley Hall: "Mr. Wookey: For whom do you apply? Mr. Ayles: For the I.L.P.; I represent as Secretary. Mr Wookey: Have you any authority to apply for this licence now? Mr. Ayles: I have. Mr. Wookey: In writing? Mr. Ayles: No. Mr. Wookey: Then I say I don't believe you. . . . I say you are a liar to your face." Mr. Wookey should really keep his wool on, for charity suffereth long and is kind; doth not behave itself unseemly, is not easily provoked; beareth all things, believeth all things, hopeth all things, endureth all things. A policeman should not use such shocking language in such a place. He should patiently wait until his opponent and critic does something horrid and then run him in with the utmost rigour of the law.

New Medical Register at Hull.

According to the *Hull and Lincolnshire News*, "The new list of avoidable doctors and approved institutions for 1914 can be seen in the nearest post office." The idea seems excellent. Not only in Hull, but in London and other places, a list of avoidable doctors is a long-felt want.

Long-Winded Credit.

Meanwhile, it would be nothing special to make a speech about were Mr. Lloyd George to pay his unavoidable doctors; it is a thundering shame that he keeps them out of their money. The third quarter is now overdue, and this is what the wife of a panel doctor writes to us:—"We have not got all the first quarter's payment, nor any of the second or third quarter's, and my husband has all his drugs to buy and make up, as we are eight miles from any chemist. We have given up keeping a horse, have parted with the groom, and have now only quite a young girl as 'general.' I have had to take in paying guests, so that my husband and I are working as hard as it is possible for any two people to work, and he does not get a penny for it. One of the doctors told us on Sunday that he wrote nearly every week, but never got an answer to his letters. . . ." It is beyond all reason to compel doctors to work on this long-winded credit. A deputation of medical men should formally tackle the Sinner about it. If the cashier were to be as slow in paying him his £1,250 a quarter there would be no end of a row.

"John and Mary" will be on sale December 5th.

Compliment—or Portent?

As Dr. Macnamara, Financial Secretary to the Admiralty, stood with his wife, who christened the vessel, among the officials and guests at the launching of the British oil-driven cruiser *Arethusa* at Chatham, did they notice that they had for their canopy, of all flags in the world, the—Imperial Ensign of Germany? Was it a chance "lie" of the flags common to these auspicious occasions, or was it a compliment on the part of the British Admiralty to our great naval rival in sea power, or—was it a portent of things to be?

Another Naughty Boy.

Apropos of our recent references to the mysterious appearance of the name of Peterboro's Chief Constable amongst the prizewinners in Messrs. Smallman and Terry's St. Leger Sweepstake, we are reminded that, in connection with another "Sweep" on the same race, the winner of a £1,000 prize was Mr. G. W. Webb, J.P., of Reading, Chairman of the Borough Justices—and a terror to the little street bookmaker. It merely means that it is naughty to gamble—at home!

Brighton Brigands.

Every lover of dear old Brighton will hear with disgust that there is a movement on foot to abolish the Aquarium and erect in its place—incidentally spoiling one of the finest sea views—a huge block of buildings, comprising an altogether unwanted new music hall, swimming-bath, tea-room, and, worst of all, a medicated bath—the latter being a horrid German importation calculated to ruin the town. Mr. Harry Preston, of the Royal York Hotel, is leading the opposition to the mad scheme, and everyone desirous of scotching it should back him up.

The Week's "Chestnut."

During the recent visit of the French President there was a French Royalist in the crowd as the procession passed by; and when Monsieur Poincaré appeared he yelled *"A bas le President,"* accompanying his exclamation with vigorous gesticulations. Two British workmen were standing by, and said one to the other: "Blimme, Bill, how pleased he is to see him!"

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LARKIN—LEADER OR LUNATIC?

HAS THE DUBLIN DEMAGOGUE COME TO STAY?

Hitherto we have said little about the Labour troubl in Dublin, regarding it as simply a preliminary rumble of the industrial storm which we have all along predicted for the approaching winter. We had, of course, noted the advent of yet another "leader" of the "workers," but they come and go in such rapid succession that we did not attach very much importance to his appearance on the scene, nor to his temporary disappearance from it. What we were more concerned with was the sorry figure cut by Ireland's professional "representatives"—we mean the noisy band of politicians who, as members of one Party or the other, claim to voice the woes and aspirations of Erin's Isle, and are threatening each other with armed and mortal combat. We have been asking where they have been during the Dublin deadlock, and have been wondering whether, as with the so-called Labour Party over here, the rank and file have begun to see through the game, and are taking matters into their own hands—preferring the crude counsels of one of their own class to the ponderous heroics of their "statesmen," who, as usual when there is real trouble about, have been conspicuous by their absence.

LARKIN'S ADVENT.

But the situation has undergone a dramatic change. "Jim Larkin," foolishly sent to prison as "a dangerous criminal," and, in his own words, more foolishly liberated by a frightened Minister, has suddenly become Labour's new Evangelist—carrying the "fiery cross" of social revolution. Nearly every paper in the land is full of his photos, and of his praise. Even the most crusted Tory journals—which ere long will be calling for his blood—are lending themselves to the campaign for his aggrandisement—are busy building up the power which it will soon be declared to be their sacred mission to demolish. The maddest things the man says are printed in large, black type as the inspired utterances of a new Messiah. Here is a specimen:—

"In a few hours I am crossing to England to raise a fiery cross. The employers and others have opened a sore which will take a long time to cure. *In a few hours there will be a general strike*, not only in Dublin, *but throughout Great Britain.*" Three days elapse, and Jim—his every movement (even to his food and sleep *en route*) being chronicled—comes to England, and makes straight for—of all towns in the country—Manchester, where the working men and women are doing better than in any other place. He goes to the Free Trade Hall—which we have ourselves often packed to overflowing, with thousands turned away, when preaching the gospel of the John Bull League; and because, forsooth, all the seats are soon secured, the Press again goes into an ecstasy of hysteria and booms the meeting beforehand as an epoch-making event!

Well, the meeting has been held, and let us now look calmly at the whole position, and endeavour to ascertain whether, in truth, a Man has at last arisen in our midst; or whether, perchance, owing to the incurable apathy of the public towards the Politicians and the Parsons (who have alternately been beating the big drum outside their respective shows) the Silly Season has unconsciously been extended, and Larkin has come as a welcome piece of journalistic "fat." In pursuing that inquiry, it is quite unnecessary to ignore the ghastly condition of the Dublin strikers, or to minimise their grievances. Indeed, when the great Industrial Revolution which we have so long foretold comes upon us, JOHN BULL will not be found lacking in practical sympathy as well as practical politics. But for the moment we are concerned with Jim Larkin.

THE MANCHESTER MANIFESTO.

Well, we have read it—and it leaves no doubt at all as to which category Larkin falls into. There is no glimmer of elementary statesmanship, much less of leadership, in his wild, incoherent and, in the worst sense of the word, vulgar drivel. We have searched in vain for any one coherent sentence containing a hint of anything in the way of a practical proposal for the benefit of the poor. Whenever we thought we had struck something of the kind, almost the next sentence dashed our hopes. It is all egotism, and egotism of the most revolting type. Here is a fair specimen: "It is said of me that I live in a mansion and drive a motor-car. . . By God! If ever a man deserved a mansion or a motor-car, that man stands here—Jim Larkin, the symbol and embodiment of the working-classes in Ireland." What do you think of that? And then, of course, the threat having fallen flat, there was "no truth" in the report that he had predicted a "general strike." Those damned reporters again! We make no apology for the expletive; it is Larkin's style. Thus: "They say you must give us Home Rule, because we want to become members of the Empire—*Damn the Empire!*" And thus: "If you want to disgrace your manhood and your Union by pretending you are friendly by giving us money, *damn you and your money!*" And so on.

LARKIN'S FAITH AND METHODS.

Did you ever read such piffle from a "leader"? "I want to lift up the class I belong to; I want to improve them physically and mentally; broaden their outlook as human beings." Who does not? And what is the "new" method?—"the new advance" Larkin calls it. "What I suggest is co-operation inside and outside our unions; no rent in time of strike, and when once a strike is finished make the employer pay you for every hour you are locked out on strike." What do you think of that for a constructive policy? Nothing about preventing the necessity for strikes: oh, no! that would mean that Larkin and his occupation would both be gone! Strike away, but be careful not to pay your rent—whilst you haven't any money, even for food! As though strikers ever *did* pay rent! And then, when it is all over, and whether you were right or wrong, just ask for your back wages, as though nothing had happened—and even if you don't return to the same firm! Larkin is a lunatic. And he is an ignorant lunatic. He told his wondering audience, "I am a man of limited intelligence, who does not know very much about Trades Union matters. . . . I am only a child in these things—a neophyte"—where he got that last term we are unable to say. In other words, he knows nothing, except what everybody knows—that, in the face of untold wealth, there is untold misery in the world.

THE LESSON AND THE MORAL.

But there is a lesson and a moral in it all. The lesson is that the professional politicians are out of it altogether when it comes to the grim reality of things. And the moral? Well, you know it. Your Larkins and your Tillets, honest well-meaning fellows in their way, are *dreamers*. They are all heart—and little head. Listen to this pathetic peroration of Larkin's: "I am speaking under the stress of feelings you cannot understand. Every starving man, woman and child in Dublin is sending a stab into my soul." We can believe it—*but* what about the remedy?

And now you have the moral—a Business Government. And the best of all Business is to see that the staff—the "workers"—are happy and contented.

SICKLY SENTIMENT.

HORSE SENSE AND A DOGGY TALE.

It is frequently assumed that the sheltering and tending of a starving animal is a meritorious act. Those afflicted with this Quixotic notion will do well to rid their minds of it with as little delay as possible. Should they doubt the wisdom of our counsel, we would refer them to the experience of Mr. Thomas Irvine of Clydebank, whose maudlin sympathy for the brute creation has landed him in serious trouble.

Mr. Irvine recently harboured a starving Irish terrier bitch, which requited his compassion by the graceless delivery of a litter of pups. He promptly distributed the progeny among his friends, with the exception of one pup whose leg was hurt, and which, in a misguided spirit of humanity, he kept at home to nurse. It seems never to have occurred to this unpractical sentimentalist that, in sheltering these troubled animals without a licence, he was committing an open and flagrant breach of the law. Only when actually threatened with legal process by an efficient Excise Officer does he appear to have caught a glimmering notion of the enormity of his crime.

The culprit's tortuous attempts to rid himself of responsibility for his defiance of our honoured institutions were somewhat pitiable.

His plea that he had given the bitch a "shake down" out of pity, and nursed the pup to health rather than let it die—like a dog—in the gutter, was scarcely worthy of the hard-headed race to which he belongs. The statement that he gave away the dogs as soon as they were well, being too poor to keep them, was perhaps more creditable to his ingenuity, but could not, of course, be permitted to prevail. The specious plea of poverty has been the refuge of the lawless lower orders in every age. The facts of the culprit's criminal conduct were as clear as noon-day. He had kept two dogs without a licence. His offence was aggravated b · the fact that he had presumed to address a letter to the Excise authorities in London, thus putting a calculated slight upon the august person of their representative in Clydebank. In these circumstances, the Dumbarton Justices thought fit to mulct the defendant in a fine of thirty shillings. This monetary penalty—in lieu of gaol or gallows—is a pleasing indication of the growing clemency of our criminal system, while the fact that the culprit was able to collect the money with the aid of certain of his friends and confederates is a sinister commentary upon the plea of penury by which it was thought to cheat the law.

We regret to learn that Mr. Irvine appears to be untaught by his stimulating experience. Believing, as he alleges, that the payment of thirty shillings included the amount of the licence duty, he has again sheltered the bitch, which has strayed back to him from her new home. For thus "sinning against the light," he has been fined a further thirty shillings, which he has not been able to pay. He will, doubtless, be incarcerated in one of his Majesty's gaols, where his misplaced tenderness to dumb creatures may afford him food for profitable reflection.

PEROPOD PILLS.

A MEDICINE WITH A MISSION.

What with the threat of the suffragettes to boycot men, and the invasion of our country by an Indian apothecary with a pill guaranteed to produce babies, the mere male might just as well pack up his traps and clear off. The name of the enterprising Hindoo quack in question is Manishanker Govindji. In a pamphlet which we have before us it is stated that he has premises in Bombay, Calcutta, Madras, and Poona. We quote one testimonial:—

> Kindly send me six tins of pills at once. When at Lore I got of you one dozen which gave me wonderful results, the more so your pills gave birth to a child after 10 years to the greatest surprise of my relations.
>
> J. C. HUDSON.
> Gangpur.

"To the great surprise of her relations"! So we should think. We should throw such physic to the dogs—cats and rabbits don't want it.

A PERILOUS PRONOUNCEMENT.

JUDGE AWARDS MOTORISTS LICENCE TO KILL.

It is to be hoped that the astounding pronouncement of Mr. Justice Bankes with reference to the rights and responsibilities of motorists will not be permitted to pass unchallenged. In the course of a manslaughter charge arising out of a motoring fatality, his lordship observed:—

"If a man has got lights on his car and he has a straight piece of road, he is entitled to assume, as well as anybody else, that if his car can be seen a man won't stand in front of it."

This weird view of the law was very properly criticised by Mr. Artemus Jones, who reminded the learned Judge that his dictum, if widely embraced, would rob cyclists and pedestrians of the small measure of security which they now enjoy. His lordship, however, declined to vary his opinion, which he thus reiterated:

"The motorist is entitled to assume that the road is clear unless he can see something, and that anyone who is there will get out of his way." Such a doctrine is nothing short of revolutionary in its contempt for the time-honoured assumption that every peaceable subject has an equal right to the use of the highway. Henceforth, a motorist's headlights are, we presume, to be regarded as fair warning to all and sundry to clear the way for the licensed monarch of the road. We cannot think that a doctrine at once so novel and inequitable will run the gauntlet of the Court of Appeal, to which, doubtless, it will ultimately find its way. His lordship's trite reflection that no man will deliberately stand in front of an approaching vehicle is hardly worthy of the judicial mind. Seeing that in the economy of nature both a man's eyes are set in the same side of his head, it is clear that a cyclist or pedestrian proceeding in the same direction as a swift-running car may catch the flash of its headlights only in the moment of catastrophe. In these circumstances, we humbly submit that the motorist is clearly not "entitled to assume" that the road is clear, and we trust that the Cyclists' Touring Club or some similar organisation will take an early opportunity of testing the validity of his lordship's view.

TRICKERY AND TRASH.

FURTHER FRAUDS OF THE PHOTO FIEND.

Exponents of the venerable photo enlargement dodge have lately been "making hay" in the city of Newcastle-on-Tyne. Most readers will be familiar with the methods of these gentry, whose dupes are principally of the feminine persuasion. The first offer to enlarge a valued likeness is coupled with an assurance that no financial liability will be incurred, beyond the cost of a frame for the completed work. A lofty disdain for figures marks these early negotiations. Returning later with an indifferent facsimile of the original, framed in the cheapest fashion, the plausible canvasser proceeds to the question of terms. In this circuitous fashion, uncritical purchasers are frequently induced to pay, by instalments, a sum which is out of all proportion to the value of the work and far in excess of the price at which it would be executed by any legitimate photographic firm.

A reader, whose wife was induced to put her signature to an agreement of this character, forwards us a threatening letter which has been addressed to him in respect of the non-payment of her instalments. He appears to have had no knowledge of his partner's deal, and is unwilling to pay for goods which he did not order and does not require.

Further, he is dissatisfied with the quality of the work, and regards the agreed price as grossly excessive. In these circumstances, he is clearly entitled to avail himself of the immunity which the law affords him. A husband is only liable for his wife's debts when his credit is pledged with his express authority, except in the case of contracts for the purchase of "necessaries" where, within limits, such authority is usually assumed. An enlarged photograph can in no sense be regarded as a necessary article, and our correspondent will thus retain a complete defence to any action. Unfortunately, the back-door step is more congenial to the enlargement-monger than the County Court.

For Result of Football Competition No. 4, see page 761.

GIDDY GABY AND THE PEEPING PARSON.

THE SOCIAL PROBLEM OF THE DAY.

BY EDGAR M. APPLETON.

Owing, possibly, to the phenomenally warm autumn, the bishops are buzzing again. It is not very probable that many people will be seriously inconvenienced, though not a few will be needlessly annoyed.

The fact of the matter is, our reformation is again due. Whether we like it or not, we are to be reformed; not next spring or the following winter—the process is to commence at once.

Now the most superficial observer of the body politic will agree that at the moment "All is *not* for the best, in the best of possible worlds." There are several phases of present-day existence which might very well be "reformed."

CLEANLINESS, GODLINESS AND MAMMON.

For instance, the sweating of laundry women in the East End cries to Heaven for a speedy reformation. Read this: "In the absence of Ching Chings, English women are employed at the wash-tub, ironing-table, and calender machine for the following munificent honorariums: apprentices (from 14 to 17 years of age) 2s. 6d. weekly for 55 hours work, excluding meal-time. Machinists average 15s. weekly, and have to keep three shirt-finishers a day going," and so on and so forth.

The sweating of waitresses is another murky blot upon our civilisation. "In one of the largest refreshment rooms in the City it is the practice for the female staff to have to work every third Sunday from 7 a.m. until 4.20 p.m. without a break and from 6 p.m. to 11 p.m., a total of more than 14 hours. Wages for a week's work are as low as 11s., with a few meagre perquisites."

It might be imagined, then, that in their zeal for reformation the Bishops would have tackled such problems as these. Not a bit of it. They are out for the scalps of those who break the twelfth commandment: Thou shalt not laugh.

Waitresses are being paid 11s. a week: what of that? Gaby powders her legs! Laundry girls receive 2s. 6d. for 55 hours work: Tut! Tut! Gaby powders her legs! One-fourth of the population of these isles is always on the verge of starvation: never mind, the appalling fact is that Gaby powders her legs. Women sell themselves in the shadow of the church walls; their case can wait—Gaby powders her legs. Let us first put a stop to that enormity, and these other reforms shall be added unto us. I should smile.

"SOCIETY" ACTORS.

Still, it must be extremely pleasing to the theatrical profession to know that the Bishop of London "counts among his personal friends many of the great actors." This is very soothing, for a certain Canon Liddon, of St. Paul's Cathedral, not so many years ago, preached a doctrine to the effect that the theatre and everyone connected with it were heading straight for perdition.

I suppose we must conclude that under the gentle guidance of the Bishops the theatrical profession, or at any rate the "great actors" connected with it, have faced about and are now making a bee-line for the Golden Gates. It is only the naughty music-hall artistes who shamelessly continue upon the old road

Be that as it may, I fail to see by what authority the Bishops have set themselves up as censors of our amusements. We pay a Lord Chamberlain and the police force to do that.

If the Rev. Timothy Dodd goes peeping about at a music-hall, and finds that there is some feature of the programme which shocks his delicate susceptibilities, the remedy lies in his own hands. He can get up and walk out, and if needs be, shake the dust of that place from his feet for ever. But when that rev. gentleman says in his heart: I find this performance offensive, suggestive (or something else equally adjectival), therefore the public shall not be allowed to witness it, he is up against a different proposition, as our cousins across the water remark. It is then, necessary for the Rev. Timothy to declare who has made him a judge and ruler in Israel. I, for one, repudiate any such authority. I seriously object to being dictated to in this way. I find it difficult to imagine anyone slapping himself on his chest as he leaves a music-hall and remarking: "A jolly good performance. I feel several degrees nobler than when I went in."

Most people, I believe, go to the theatre simply because they want to, or because they are in need of a little relaxation.

"LAUGH AND GROW—" BAD!

If they are in need of a little spiritual ennoblement, they prefer to wait until Sunday and receive that blessing from the lips of, say, a Bishop. But I am told that the habit of sallying forth on the Sabbath in search of spiritual ennoblement is falling into desuetude.

But the crux of the whole question lies here: music-hall performers set out with the intention of making people laugh. To the Puritan mind that is a gross offence, meriting severe castigation.

The parson has proved himself ever a past-master in the discovery of mares' nests. Essential evils he has calmly ignored. His delight is in setting up a dummy offence for the pleasure of knocking it down again. Perpend. Children are starving in Dublin. It is proposed that they shall be sent to English homes until the trouble shall have blown over. No, you don't, says the priest. The clergy admit that they themselves cannot feed these poor unfortunates, but to send them to England, where they might suck in doctrines which would imperil their immortal souls, is not to be thought of.

The Gaby controversy has drawn into the arena no less a man than the redoubtable "G. B. S," and before I draw to a conclusion I beg leave to quote just one paragraph from his letter to *The Times*. Respecting the effect of the music-hall upon the emotions he said: "If I had a neurotic daughter, I would rather risk taking her to the Palace Theatre than to a revival meeting. Nobody has yet counted the homes and characters ruined by intemperance in religious emotion. When we begin to keep such statistics, the Chapel may find its attitude of moral superiority to the theatre, and even to the public-house, hard to maintain; and may learn a little needed charity."

Although the paragraph, at first sight, may flavour of the burlesque, a little reflection upon it will discover its innate truthfulness. I commend it to your kind consideration.

COMPLIMENTARY—FOR A CHANGE!

In the meantime, there is just one drop of comfort for Gaby in an ocean of desolation. The Vicar of Brixton backs her every time. He says: "She is an innocent, unaffected, good woman. I told her I objected to the attitude of some of my brother clergy in regard to her, and have given her permission to perform my play in America." How gracious! You see, it isn't everyone who considers Gaby a naughty girl who ought to be stood in the corner. The Vicar thinks she is a "nice unaffected, good woman." How charming. I wonder if she will avail herself of his kind offer. If she does, I wonder if he will draw any royalties from the transaction.

DIVIDENDS AND DEATH.

SWEATED SIGNALMAN'S STRIKING STATEMENT.

We have received an informative letter from a Scotch railway signalman. It throws a flood of light upon those problems of safety which have recently been presented with tragic insistence to the public mind. We have no reason to suppose that the conditions obtaining within the range of our correspondent's experience are markedly dissimilar from those which prevail elsewhere, neither do we discern any element of exaggeration in his lurid comments. Indeed, they accord but too well with our earlier information, and lend striking emphasis to our oft repeated strictures upon the companies and upon the Board of Trade.

A single clause in our correspondent's statement serves as a text for the whole. He aptly inquires :—

"Would you not rather entrust your life to a thoroughly capable man receiving good pay and not fatigued with overwork, than to the languid, half-starved, underpaid individual to be seen everywhere to-day?"

This is a hard saying, and the writer at once proceeds to point the moral of his pregnant query. His own case is strikingly in point. Arrived at the age of twenty-nine years and with normal domestic responsibilities, he enjoys a stipend of twenty-four shillings a week. His is literally a "constant" job. Sixty hours of weekly duty go to the earning of his pittance. Throughout the working period, he must be keen, tense, alert, in the knowledge that a momentary lapse may eventuate in unimaginable disaster and involve himself and his dependents in utter ruin.

What the Public Pays for Sweated Labour.

Lamely struggling under his load of dread responsibility, vexed the while with the grim spectre of want, the unhappy man sadly pronounces himself "a nervous and bodily wreck." Even so there is no respite from his sweated drudgery. Only in moments of despondency, the cynical comfort that some day the "slip" will inevitably occur, and that he will be "cleared out" to make room for a younger and *cheaper* man. Small wonder that there is bitterness in the man's spirit and that he vents his pent up indignation in wrathful exclamation. "All this," he declares, "to satisfy the greed of a grabbing, bloodsucking company."

Our correspondent is clear as to the wider bearings of his situation. He cogently intimates that the woes and hardships of signalmen are of supreme public concern, and proceeds :—

"Not one person in a thousand knows anything about the working of a signal box. You catch a fleeting glance of a worried, drawn face, as you flash by the cabin at sixty miles an hour, and there your interest begins and ends."

With interesting technical explanation, it is made apparent that the "block" system of signalling is theoretically and even practically complete, adequate to every emergency, commensurate even with the modern craze for speed, and that when disaster has occurred through defective signalling it may be safely assumed that it is the worn and jaded human factor which has at length broken down.

The State Preferred as Employer.

Our correspondent supplements his plea for an eight hours day and a living wage with a demand for the nationalisation of railways. We have never concealed our sympathy with the project, and we shall await with interest and impatience the conclusions of the Royal Commission, which is now investigating the incidence of railway administration. Perhaps for adequate reasons, problems of public safety, together with those labour considerations to which they are closely allied, have been excluded from the purview of inquiry. The Conciliation Boards appear to have forfeited the confidence of the men, and, whatever the cause, they have signally failed to effect a sensible improvement in the status and prospects of the worst paid railway employees. Apart altogether from the larger questions now the subject of inquiry, the internal working and administration of railways merits instant investigation. Failing compliance with the legitimate requirements of labour and the primary conditions of safety, the companies should be deprived of their monopoly at an equitable price.

A CHOLERIC "CAPTAIN."

THE BLOOMSBURY BITER BITTEN AT LAST.

Encouraged by the ease with which he "lifted" £50 for a comparatively worthless opal, "Captain" Walter I. Rand, of 16, Hart Street, Bloomsbury Square, W.C., is endeavouring to find fatter fish than those he can hook with his "lucky stone" bait. He has, within the last week or two, been angling for one of these, the bait being a topaz, and the looked-for catch a goldfish of the value of £30. In this case he did not pose as a philanthropist doing the business without profit and actuated solely by a desire to oblige the purchaser; he boldly sent a printed catalogue, "which represents a fairly large and comprehensive stock which we purchased from a firm in town a short time ago." Again there was the offer to refund the money should the article prove unsatisfactory—our readers are aware how much this assurance is worth. Ultimately, Rand forwarded "on appro." what he described as an "aquamarine and yellow and pink topaz brooch," stating that the latter ingredients were "what are called 'precious topaz,' and each one, therefore, is worth ten times the price of an ordinary topaz." The original cost of the article, he vehemently asserted, was probably £50. The wily Walter had, however, underestimated the intelligence and knowledge of his correspondent—who, as a matter of fact, was an expert in jewellery and precious stones, and, after reading our recent article, had entered into negotiations with the Yankee "Captain" merely for the purpose of obtaining a little innocent merriment at his expense. On receiving the brooch he, therefore, had no hesitation in placing its value at thirty shillings instead of £50, the gold mount being under nine carats in fineness and the wonderful topaz little better than pieces of sodawater bottle. He, after amusing his friends with it—one of whom, a pretty girl, assured him that she would not even kiss her best boy for the gift of it—returned the article labelled "Coloured glass—with care," at the same time enclosing a copy of the issue in which we had detailed the *modus operandi* of the £50 swindle. Doubtless the life of the office boy at Hart Street was made a burden to him on the following morning.

BABIES IN BUSINESS.

THE PICTURE THAT IS "NOT" ON THE WALL.

The Waverley Studios of 264, Renfrew Street, Glasgow, claim to have been established close upon 30 years, but apparently all this experience has not taught them business methods. In March last the firm had a canvasser working the Bangor district, who received four photographs to be enlarged, six shillings being paid for the work. Two months later, not having received the enlargements according to promise, the customer wrote the firm making a complaint—to which they replied :—

> We have not, at the present moment, your name upon our books. Neither have we any photographs of that coupon number sent in. We have written to our agent in that district regarding the matter. It is possible he has overlooked them. As soon as we hear from him we will let you know.

After the lapse of several weeks, not having heard anything more from the Studios, a reminder was sent, which elicited this reply :—

> As we have heard nothing further re your photos there was not much use writing you. We have not the slightest idea where our agent is at the present moment. We are waiting patiently until we do hear of him, as no doubt we will. We assure you that we are just as sorry as you are that your photos did not come to hand, but that has happened by some of our men before who have overlooked them but eventually found them and sent them in, which we are hoping may turn out to be the case of yours. We are not forgetting the matter.

This discloses an amazing slackness. Surely, if the photographs were not sent to Glasgow as they should have been, it is obligatory on the part of the Studios to find out the reason for the omission. The statement that the firm do not know where their agent is and that their employees have before acted in this grossly neglectful manner is grotesque in its babyish helplessness.

A Splendid Christmas Gift.—A "John Bull" Pen for Coupon. See page ii. of cover.

PUNISHMENT SCHOOLS.

DEPARTMENTAL COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS FLOGGING.

The London County Council, as the Education Authority for London, has a keen responsibility in the matter of Industrial School administration, although the actual control of these institutions—which are regarded as penal establishments—is in the hands of the Home Office. The schools have long been the subject of general criticism, and two Departmental Committees have already investigated their working. In June last, a lengthy report by a Home Office Committee was presented to the County Council, since when the defects of Reformatory and Industrial School administration have furnished material for protracted discussion. While acutely conscious of the shortcomings of the existing system, the Council has hitherto evinced a strange reluctance to voice a demand for definite reform. We are not without hope, however, that in view of recent revelations, the Authority may yet insist upon the elimination of those abuses which mar the utility of Industrial School machinery and discredit those responsible for its administration.

WELCOME SUPPORT FOR HUMANITARIANISM.

The report of the Departmental Committee is a frigidly "official" document, and the public are indebted to Mr. R. Blair, the Education Officer of the Council, for luminous comments upon its arid contents and upon the general aspects of the problem. The question of indentured labour, in South Wales and elsewhere, was prominently before the Committee. It would appear, indeed, that the more glaring defects of this pestilent system have at length penetrated to the official consciousness. The Education Officer writes:—

> The need of co-operation in placing and supervising would appear to be specially necessary as regards schools sending their children to South Wales and other farming localities. The whole question of the supply of young labour to South Wales appears to be one demanding careful enquiry.

Mr. Blair thus places on record an opinion which is increasingly shared by all whose moral standards are untainted by official bias. Unhappily no echo of his forceful comments is to be found in the recommendations of the Committee.

The white slavery of the Welsh farms is apparently deemed unworthy of serious reference. No mention is made of the awful sufferings of the little drudges cut off from home and friends. The bitter cry of wronged and ill-treated children still goes up. A Departmental Committee has no ears, no eyes—and few brains.

The whole problem of the after-care of industrial school inmates is dismissed with a series of pious platitudes revealing a woeful blindness to the growing urgency of the demand for drastic reform.

A RETREAT IN THE MARCH OF CIVILISATION.

Certain of the Committee's recommendations are frankly retrograde. We look with marked disfavour upon the proposal to initiate corporal punishment in girls' industrial schools. The belief in flogging as a factor in moral regeneration is fast disappearing, and it is regrettable that it should enjoy transient revival at the hands of officials charged with the control of a vital branch of penal administration. We have confidence that this recommendation, offensive to every decent instinct, will be strongly reprobated by the public at large. The fact that such a reactionary proposal, closely involving the well-being of hundreds of young persons, will, when ratified by the Home Secretary, acquire the force of law irrespective of Parliamentary assent, scarcely enhances one's admiration of our governmental system.

We have no space to deal with the minor clauses of the Committee's Report. For the most part, its recommendations have the appearances of tinkering with a problem which calls for bold constructive handling. Such a task is beyond the power, as it is outside the scope, of any departmental body. Public opinion can alone furnish the dynamic which will overcome the inertia of officialdom and supply the driving force of reforming activity. To this end the London County Council can and should render valuable aid in focusing the opinion of the community and affording it audible expression.

THE INDIANS' BAG.

A POW-WOW WITH THE REDSKINS' BISHOP.

It is a generally accepted aphorism that contact with civilisation has destroyed the virtues which distinguished the North American so-called Indians, delightfully portrayed by Fenimore Cooper—that when exchanging their furs for fire-water and Bibles they simultaneously handed over some of their most admirable characteristics. We are afraid that support of this theory is afforded by the following case, particulars of which reach us from a correspondent who, about two-and-a-half years ago, on leaving "the noble red-men" at John Smith Reserve—shades of gentle Pocahontas!—Prince Albert, Saskatchewan, after living among them for some time, was asked by a local missionary of the Church of England to do his charges a good turn by obtaining in England orders for the bead and leather work wherewith they have been induced to occupy their time.

Our friend was only too willing to be of service in this way, and through his medium postal orders for 12s. 6d. were shortly afterwards sent to the missionary, together with an order for a handbag. No acknowledgment of the order or remittance reaching the customer, she repeatedly wrote the missionary, but without apparent effect. Six months having passed in this unsatisfactory way, our correspondent felt it incumbent upon him to take a hand in the game. Accordingly, in February, 1912, he wrote to the Bishop of Saskatchewan, giving him the fullest details and enclosing counterfoils of the postal orders. The Archdeacon acknowledged this communication, explaining that the Bishop was absent, and promising to communicate with the missionary and get the matter rectified.

Whatever steps this dignitary took are unknown to us—no inkling of them reached the lady or her champion, nor was there any sign from the missionary. Three months later, learning that the Bishop was in London, a letter was sent to him, asking for an interview. Episcopacy was politeness personified. After thanking his correspondent for the letter, the Bishop proceeded to say that, as the matter had been so fully explained, there was no necessity for an interview—for which, indeed, his Right-Reverence could hardly find time—expressing sorrow that he had not had the pleasure of his correspondent's personal acquaintance when in Canada, promising to keep his letter carefully in order that the complaint might be attended to on his return, and undertaking to inform him of the result as early as possible. This charming epistle was dated May 3rd, 1912, but the Father of the Church has apparently let the matter slide in some way, as has his subordinate. May we remind his Right-Reverence that fine words butter no parsnips—nor, provide handbags?

BEER BEGRUDGED.

LUTON LANDLADY AND OFFICIOUS OFFICERS.

Luton has a very human landlady in the licensee of the Queen's Hotel. Attached to her premises is a large yard, stable and harness room. These she sublets to a firm in the town. Two grooms are employed by them, and being decent fellows, as most "horsey" men are, they were not above doing an odd job occasionally for the landlady, naturally being rewarded by her.

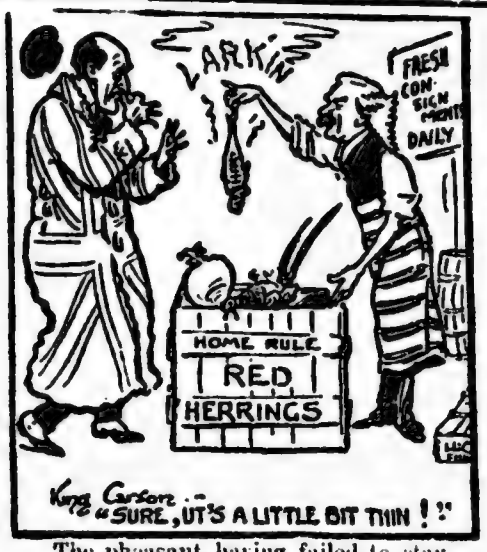
Animals must, of course, be attended to on Sunday as well as on other days, and, consequently, the grooms are in the yard on that day; and upon a certain Sabbath, hid away in the background was Inspector Franklin and Sergt. Hunt. They hadn't to wait long before the kindly landlady came out of the hotel with a couple of bottles of beer and took them to the grooms. Out jumped the "peeping Toms." It was a fair "cop," so they thought, and they summoned the landlady for selling intoxicating liquor during prohibited hours. The prosecution argued that if no actual money passed, the beer was given for services rendered, and that was barter. It did not go down, however, with the magistrates, who dismissed the case. We know not whether Franklin and Hunt are members of the "Temperance" band, but have no hesitation in saying that a great many of their comrades are not, and many of them get a bottle of beer during prohibited hours "for services rendered"! We raise our glass to the Luton Magistrates.

Your Last Chance to win our £1,750 Prize. See page 787.

"JOHN BULL'S" WEEKLY CINEMA.

BULL-DOGGEREL RHYMES BY "THE BOW-WOW."

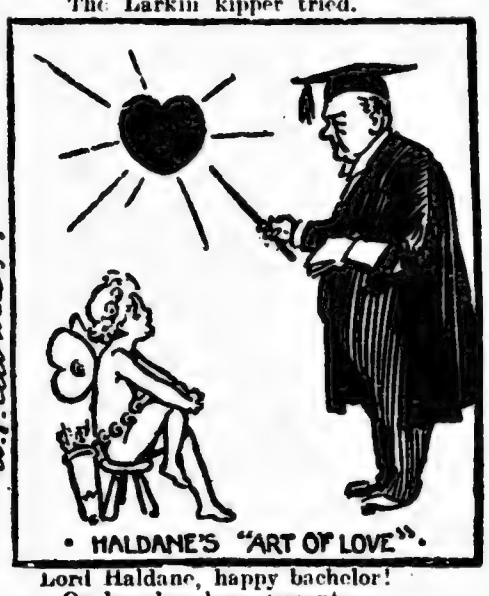
The Heir of Austria arrives
To be King George's guest,
Wherein the "Bow-wow" vainly strives
To find some interest.



The pheasant having failed to stay
The Anti-Home Rule tide,
Fishmonger George, without delay,
The Larkin kipper tried.

Twenty-five years of wedded bliss
Away have swiftly coursed,
But what a pity that he is
From politics divorced!

Entangled in the Tango, see
Society a-squirm.
Each struggling his best to be
A terpsichorean worm.



Lord Haldane, happy bachelor!
On hopeless love descants,
And shows how victims may restore
Peace to the heart that pants.

Armed with the *Daily Mail's* stiff broom
The Bishop sweeps. With luck
He may escape the horrid doom
Of him who raked the muck.

SAFEGUARDS FOR THE SAFE.

GRAVE DEFECT IN PRISON ADMINISTRATION.

Persons arrested upon suspicion of crime will do well to curb any eccentricities of habit to which they may be prone, lest a worse thing befall them. In the existing state of the law, any inmate of his Majesty's prisons may, either before or after conviction, be transferred to a lunatic asylum upon the warrant of the prison doctor, countersigned by two Visiting Justices. We cannot look with favour upon a system which places so large a measure of power in the hands of authorities who, from their very position, are unlikely to have an adequate appreciation of the grave issues involved in its exercise. Several cases have been brought to our notice in which the slenderest evidence of insanity has served to consign prisoners to indefinite detention in public asylums. In none of these instances has there been any suggestion of active or violent mania, and it is probable that, but for their committal to gaol, the persons concerned would now be enjoying the fullest liberty. It is impossible to exaggerate the horror attendant upon the prolonged detention of a sane person in the company of the demented, and it is a matter for regret that the authorities should have stubbornly refused an independent inquiry in several instances which have lately occupied their attention. Meanwhile, we submit that no prison inmate should be certified as insane except upon independent medical testimony. Moreover, the mental condition of a subject so committed should be a matter of similarly independent inquiry at stated periods. These simple requirements embody principles which scarce need defence.

THE SCIENTIFIC KISS.

[*Dr. Mary Scharlieb told the Incorporated Institute of Hygiene that the habit of indiscriminate kissing is unutterably silly.*]

My love, when next I see your eyes
In expectation glisten,
I shall be fain to ask that you
Will to a doctor listen;
The doctor is a lady one,
Which fact led her to state
How she objects to kisses that
Are indiscriminate.

Therefore, ere next you pout your lips
For pledge of my affection,
I beg you will consider this
A matter for reflection:
For kisses of the stated kind
(I break it gently, Lily)
Are, says the lady medico,
Unutterably silly.

Now, shall our kisses be tabooed
Through what is said about them?
And must we in the future be
Content to do without them?
No! We'll abjure haphazard styles—
The casual kiss eliminate—
Let us sit side by side, my dear,
And—seriously discriminate!

RICARDO.

Our Great Christmas Prize Offer—1,000 Turkeys and other Gifts.

A RUDDERLESS DREADNOUGHT.

CURIOUS CRAFT'S CONTROLLESS COURSE.

When, quite recently, sea-going engineers came within the operations of the National Insurance Act, the more wideawake of this worthy class sought to obtain the maximum of refreshing fruit and the minimum of pip by joining an Approved Society which could offer them special benefits. A correspondent, therefore, lent a ready ear to the seductive words of an agent of the Dreadnought Sickness and Accident Association, of 459, Green Street, Upton Park. So liberal were the terms held out—a pound a week in case of incapacitating sickness or accident, and half that sum when not confined to house or hospital, in return for an entrance fee of a shilling and a monthly subscription of 1s. 6d.—that, on the assurance that the body was an Approved Society, he, and a good many of his mates, handed over their money—in his case, 10s. On receiving the "Rules" of the Association, our seadog began to sniff a rat. In its scantiness of detail, this document is probably the most extraordinary ever issued by an insurance concern. It is absolutely destitute of the names of trustees, secretary, treasurer, auditor, banker, committee, or any other controlling element, unless it be that "delegates" supervise its work. The names of these officials are set out thus: "England—W. Dummer, Esq., G. E. Shears, Esq., and John Lyall, Esq.; Scotland—A. L. Todd, Esq.; Australia—R. Blunkett, Esq." Not a word is said as to their method of appointment.

THE VEILED "FIST."

In endeavouring to ascertain the facts regarding this elusive body, we addressed a letter to the Secretary asking point blank whether the Society was properly registered; what was its working capital; whether it was "approved" under the National Insurance Act, and whether any of its promoters or directors were connected with the One and All Society whose mismanagement, to say the least, resulted in such great disaster to it and its subscribers. The reply we received was as follows:—

> I am instructed by the Committee to inform you that all the particulars will be sent you after the meeting on Friday, October 24th.—Yours faithfully,
>
> ONE OF THE COMMITTEE.

We were astonished to learn of the existence of a Committee, despite the apparent absence of a Secretary, but our eyebrows were raised considerably higher when the result of what appears to have been a special meeting of the mysterious Committee turned out to be the receipt of another missive from a member of that masked body, ignoring absolutely the direct questions we had put, and enclosing what were stated to be "*all* the papers" in reference to the Association—these being merely a reprint of the lamentably deficient "Rules," a proposal form, and such samples of office routine as a postcard intended to be addressed to persons in arrears with subscriptions, a sick visitor's report, and a member's claim form. Not one of these contains the name and address of a single official. The proposal form, by-the-bye, is also a wonderful document. Although the Association specially endeavours to attract seamen, it requires an applicant to affirm—any untruth automatically forfeiting all moneys paid—that he "has not in contemplation any special journey"; that he "has never had bronchitis, asthma, anæmia, sciatica, lumbago, rheumatism, gout, &c.," and that his sight and hearing are not impaired—a declaration which not one person in a thousand could honestly make. It seems, therefore, that the proposal is intended to be "taken as read."

BEYOND THE PALE OF THE LAW.

We strongly advise our correspondent and any other person who may have rashly joined this anonymously-managed body to endeavour to get back what they can of their subscriptions. It is typical of the "Rules" that no provision whatever is made for such a likely eventuality as a resignation from its ranks, and, in any event, we are afraid this is a body which has no legal existence, and is, therefore, beyond the pale of the law—it being impossible either to sue it nor to be sued by it. Does any reader know who is behind the concern? As a clue, we may say that, attached to the words "One of the Committee," are the initials "W. H. S."

SOUTHEND SWEATERS.

PIER COMMITTEE'S OSTRICH TACTICS.

From a local paper we gather that the Southend Pier Committee at their recent meeting considered certain allegations of one of our correspondents, the late woman attendant at the sea-water baths, concerning her hours and wages, and that "The Piermaster having reported as to the wages, hours, and general conditions of service of the officer referred to, the Committee expressed their approval thereof." Surely an accusation so specific is not to be disposed of by proceedings so unsatisfactory? Let us remind the Committee of the form in which we put the allegation. "It appears," we said, "that until quite recently she was an attendant at the Corporation sea-water baths, and from Good Friday until her resignation from reasons of health, started at 7 o'clock each morning and worked till 8 o'clock at night without any time whatever for meals, Sundays the same, making 91 hours a week, for which she received 16s. This is so serious a charge against the Corporation of Southend that we shall be glad to receive some explanation, if not a disclaimer, from them." Now, looking at that allegation, and noting that it is as gross and specific a charge of sweating as could be made against any public or private body, it cannot be said that the Committee have answered it.

"After having heard the Piermaster," the local newspaper says, the Committee approved the "wages, hours, and general conditions." Have they the face to let it go to the public that the employment of a woman for 91 hours a week, without time off for meals, at 16s. a week is a right thing, an honest thing, or a humane thing? And why this sublime faith in the Piermaster? The Town Clerk knew that the woman was ready and willing and eager to give evidence before the Committee, for she offered herself to him. Why was she not called, if they wanted to know the truth?

If we were to judge the Committee by the manner of their proceedings, we should have to say, not only that they did not wish to know the truth, but that they wished to suppress it. This woman, who says she was sweated while in their employment in this disgraceful way, has not been asked a single question by any of them; even her letter to the Town Clerk was not treated with the ordinary courtesy of acknowledgment. What did the Piermaster tell them, and how are they certain that he knows at first hand what the hours and conditions were or are? If the Committee have no personal knowledge, it is their business and their duty to get to know, and to get to know by hearing all sides, not to allow dust to be thrown into their eyes by hearing one side only. Again we ask, Was this woman employed 91 hours a week, Sundays included, without any time for meals, at 16s. a week? She says she was. She says she is willing to prove she was. What say the Committee?

BLUFF.

RENT COLLECTORS' DEVIOUS DODGE.

Many firms are in the habit of entrusting long-standing accounts to debt-collecting agencies which frequently attempt to enforce summary payment by a spurious show of legal process. It is hardly necessary to insist that none of these concerns has a vestige of judicial authority. They are merely agents for the collection of debts payable to the persons by whom they are employed, and enjoy no powers beyond those possessed by their principals. Most agencies of this type are in the habit of imposing charges varying from two to five shillings or more as "expenses" for the collection of outstanding sums, and debtors frequently yield to these exactions from a belief that they are legally enforceable. In point of fact, every such demand is an attempt to "bluff" the harassed debtor into the payment of a charge for which the creditor, if anyone, is properly liable. Debtors favoured with the attentions of these worthies will do well, if justly indebted, to remit the precise amount of their liability without reference to any such unauthorised exaction. No legal consequences can follow the refusal to discharge these imposts.

For Result of Football Competition No. 4, see page 761.

What is the difference between a 30/- a week man and a £500 a year man?

NOT size—the cheaper man may be the bigger.

NOT education — the cheaper man may be a University graduate.

NOT influence—the men at the very top are generally those who began at the very bottom.

NO—the difference lies in degree of business ability.

INCREASE your business ability—and you raise yourself above the 30/- a week man—you can raise yourself to £500 a year and away beyond it.

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Read the Opinions of a few subscribers who have saved money and made money by the volumes.

Mr. A. H. Passmore, of 79, High Street, Rochester.
"We adopted the system of book-keeping advocated in Vol. 6, pp. 52, and it has saved us the whole cost of what we paid for the volumes. It has reduced our book debts by one-half."

Mr. G. N. Thomas, 82, Lansdowne Road, London, W.
"It has proved of inestimable benefit as work of general reference on all phases of commercial activity. My only regret being that I did not possess the books years ago."

Mr. S. M. Brown, 17, Leslie Street, Pollokshields, Glasgow.
"To my son who has just entered on a business career it has proved of immense service and benefit."

COUPON FOR FREE BOOKLET.

(J.B. 4.)

To The Educational Book Co., Ltd., 17, New Bridge St., London, E.C.

SIRS,—I should like to receive full particulars of the 10-volume Harmsworth Business Library, which I can have delivered to me on first subscription of **2s. 6d.**, and of the patent Bookcase Desk that you will send me free if I subscribe for the work.

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A "POTTY" CANN.

ITINERANT INSPECTOR'S POMPOUS PROCEEDINGS.

Early last year the Bristol City Council appointed an Inspector under the Shops Act, and their choice fell upon one Cann, son of Bristol's Prefect of Police. The supervision of local traders thus became a sort of family affair. Recently, Mrs. Clara Kerr, the wife of a highly-respected Bristol shopkeeper, was summoned to the City Police Court upon a charge of having obstructed the said Cann in the execution of his duty—a species of capital crime. It seems that Cann had called at the shop in the absence of Mr. Kerr, and had there entered into conversation with the lady assistant in charge. He expressed a desire to see Mrs. Kerr, who was accordingly summoned from a house on the other side of the street. Pending her arrival, which was delayed for some minutes, the amiable Cann appears to have subjected the assistant to an exhaustive cross-examination, cheerfully ignoring the presence in the shop of a number of customers waiting to be served. Arrived at the shop, Mrs. Kerr expressed surprise and annoyance at the obstruction of her business. Assuming that Cann was one of the State Insurance Inspectors who have recently been active in Bristol, she hastily demanded to know why he had not inspected the girl's card and left her to her urgent duties. Cann loftily disdained to correct the lady's obvious error, and, in reply to the direct query "Who are you?" observed, with an august hint of indefinite powers, "You shall know later!"

The foregoing passages contain all the evidence which the prosecution could muster in furtherance of the charge of "obstruction." In cross-examination, the worthy Inspector was fain to admit that there had, in fact, been no obstruction, even in a Pickwickian sense, for he had actually catechised the assistant to the full limit of his legal authority before Mrs. Kerr's arrival on the scene. This ingenuous admission destroyed the whole case for the prosecution. The charge was dismissed.

But without costs! Mr. Kerr must shoulder the whole burden of his wife's defence to a charge devoid of even the flimsiest foundation. The utter hollowness of the proceedings against her is illustrated by the fact that she did not even know who Cann was at the time of the alleged obstruction. His failure to acquaint her of his identity—a somewhat "fishy" circumstance—coupled with his admissions in the box, placed him entirely out of Court.

We are not insensible to the fact that had the Bench decreed costs against the Inspector, the burden must ultimately have fallen upon the public shoulders. Such a contention is no answer to the claims of simple justice. Should cases of this character recur, the Magistrates will do well to let costs "follow the event," and to leave the ratepayers of Bristol to square the account with Cann.

GATESHEAD GABIES.

MUDDLED MAGISTRATES' MYSTERIOUS METHODS.

We are glad to see that in the course of a recent case at the Durham Sessions, in which a miner was indicted for stealing a horse and trap, the Chairman, Judge Greenwell, strongly commented on the action of the Gateshead Magistrates who, in committing the accused for trial, fixed the bail so high that the man could not avail himself of it. Up to the time in question the prisoner held a good character. "It seems monstrous," the Chairman said, "that you should have been in gaol since July 31st, when the desire of everybody is to keep people like you out of gaol as much as possible. You will be bound over to come up for judgment if called upon, and I can only express my sorrow that you should have been kept in gaol three months"; all which is rightly and clearly spoken. This sort of thing is something more than unjust; it is downright wicked. In what frame of mind magistrates fix a bail which is prohibitive if the object is to let out a defendant till his trial, we cannot understand. In allowing bail in this case the Gateshead Magistrates obviously admitted that it was a case in which bail could properly be granted, and when they learned they had fixed it beyond the available means of the defendant and his friends and that it was keeping him incarcerated until the Sessions, they should have reduced the amount.

HUMAN DOCUMENT.—CCLXXIV.

[In this column every week we publish particulars of some human derelict whose case, after full investigation, we are able to recommend to the charity of our readers. We are happy to say that in this way we have already been the means of bringing comfort into many a wretched home. All amounts subscribed are duly acknowledged, and no deduction of any kind is made by us.]

A SAD STORY FROM SHEFFIELD.

Living in a Sheffield slum is a family of six—man and wife, and four children of whom the eldest is but 7 years of age. If help is not immediately rendered they will have to go into the workhouse. The man served in the 3rd Battalion East Kent Regiment in St. Helena. After coming home in 1901, his voice gradually became weaker, and he was discharged three years later as medically unfit. He then obtained a labourer's job in some steel works, and after being there two years was given the post of timekeeper. This he kept for six years, but then had to leave on account of losing his voice altogether. He went into the infirmary for an operation, but is now back with his family, though still attending that institution as an out-patient. During all this illness his wife and children had to live, and, of course, the State allowance was insufficient. In consequence, the little "home" was sold bit by bit. At the present moment there are but the barest necessaries—but what is perhaps worse is that they owe eight weeks' rent, and the father has no prospect of work. He holds excellent references and is fit for a light job. Perhaps some Sheffield employer could do with such a man. We shall be pleased to communicate name and address. In the meantime, we make an earnest appeal for the poor people.

We have received the following amounts, which we have forwarded to the subjects of the "Human Documents" named:—

CCLXXI.—"Soldier" (Richmond), 6d.; H. D., 2s.; E. C., 1s.; "Sobiaon," 1s.

CCLXXII.—"Anon," 1s.; C. W. J. B., 20s.; B. B., 1s.; H., 2s. 6d.; "Soldier" (Richmond), 6d.; "Hat Trick," 2s. 6d.; "Unstamped," 6d.; F. M. R. E., 3s.; "Thanksgiving," £1; "Youghal," 15s.; "Sea," 2s. 6d.; D. J., 10s.; A. McC., 1s.; M. and V., 1s.; "Anonymous," 1s.; "Out o' Work," 6d.; A. C., 1s.; "Charity" (Leith), £1.; W. H. M., 1s.; C. H. S., 10s.; "Hel-Bee," 3s. 4d.; "Rene," 10s.

CCLXXIII.—"Ivy Mary," 2s. 6d.; H. P. (Canada), 4s., "Little Johnie," 8s.; R. C., 1s.; E. M. H., 3d.; Mrs. A. E. V., 2s.; R. G., 1s.; W. H. R., 9d.; J. V., 2s. 6d.; "Skint," 2s. 6d.; "Cicely," 2s. 6d.; "Mistake," 6d.; W. D., 5s.; "Donald," 2s. We have much pleasure in also acknowledging the sum of £1 3s. 6d. for "The Potman's Widow of the 'Grapes,' gathered on rent-day in Cambridge Street, Edgware Road." The donors are forty in number, their amounts ranging from 3d. to 5s.

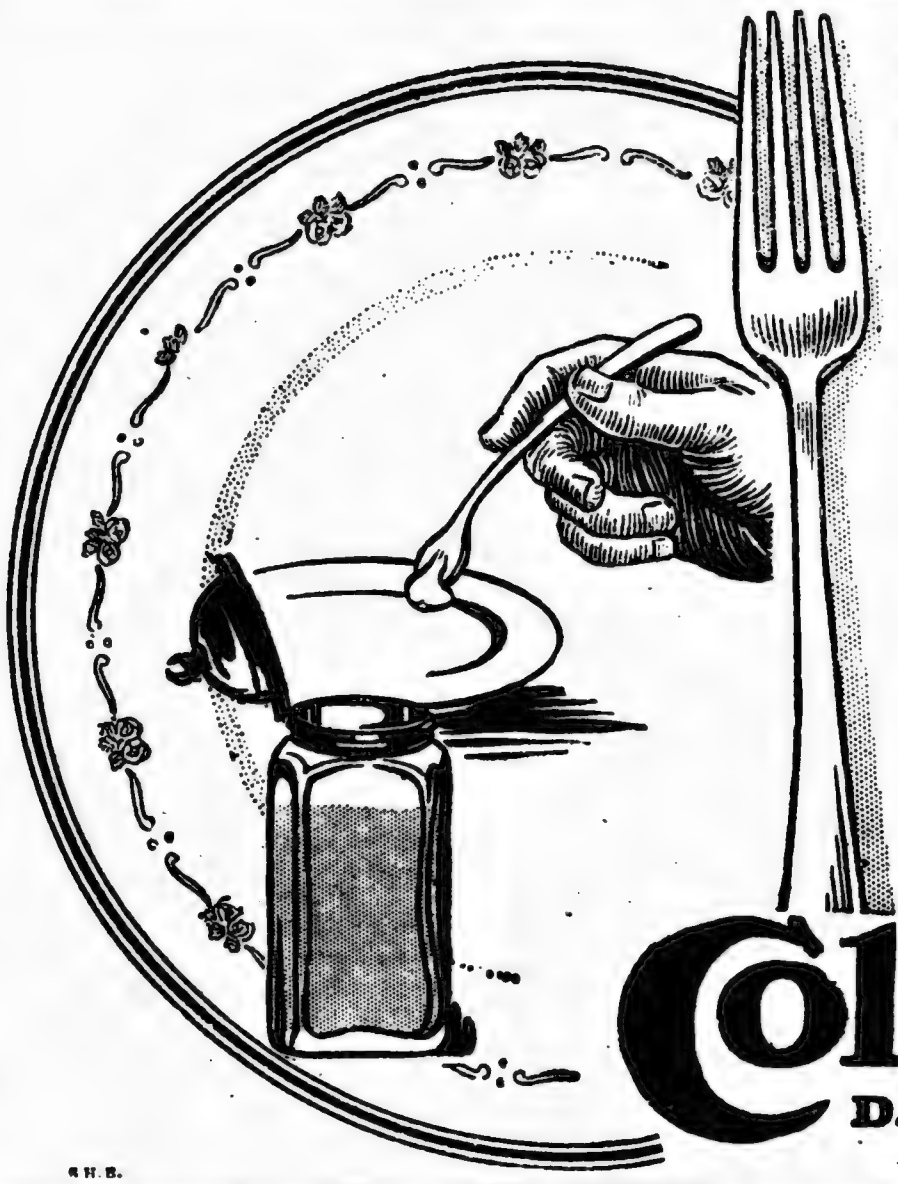
We have this week apportioned £10 from the JOHN BULL Derby Sweepstake Charity Fund as follows:—CCXLIII., £2; CCXLIV., £2; CCXLV., £1; and CCLXXIII., £5.

THE FOX AND THE CAT.

"A DANIEL COME TO JUDGMENT."

Mr. W. E. Fox, of Gainsborough, Chairman of the Lincoln Quarter Sessions, has ordered half-a-dozen "incorrigible rogues and vagabonds" to receive a whipping. As by s. 4 of the Vagrancy Act every person found guilty of wandering abroad, or lodging in any barn or outhouse or deserted or unoccupied building, without visible means of subsistence, or without being able to give a good account of himself, becomes a "rogue and vagabond," and as by another section if he has been already convicted of being that same and comes up again he becomes "incorrigible," and may be sent to the House of Correction for a year, and also be punished by a whipping, we assume this is the offence for which the fearful Fox has ordered them to six months' hard in addition to the whacking. Rumour has it that he is now waiting for the appearance of others caught red-handed while annexing a penn'orth of potatoes or the husks that the swine did eat, and then if he can find an old Statute by which he can order a hanging—may the Lord have mercy on their souls!

£1,750 Won Twice. Another waiting this week. Last Coupon. See page ii. of cover.



Ten minutes old

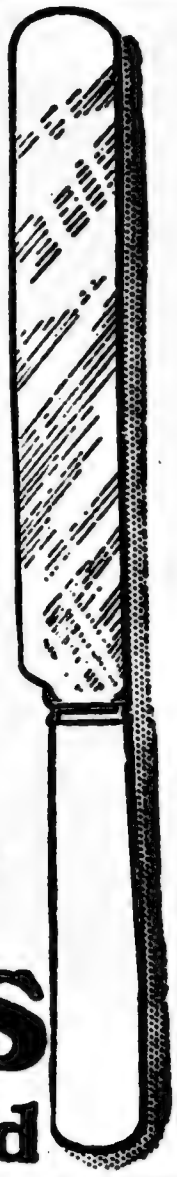
—that is the way to serve Mustard

Mustard should be freshly mixed for each meal. Cold water should be used. And if you want to realise to the full the zestful appetising powers and digestive value of Mustard, see that it is mixed to the consistency of thick cream, *and let it stand ten minutes.*

It takes ten minutes for the valuable *essential oil* to develop. This oil is the magic that keeps one's digestion ever young.

If you are young, notice the old folk t at still thoroughly enjoy their roast beef. They take *Mustard*—and must have done so since their youth, to have preserved such digestive powers!

"A mustard spoon in the hand is worth two 'tonics' in the future."



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INDIGNANT OLD GENT: "Now, my boy, what do you mean by hitting that little girl?"
SMALL BOY: "Garn, she's my sweetheart!"

COUNCIL AND COTTAGERS.

A VAIN APPEAL TO THE L.G.B.

There is considerable indignation in Fulham at the treatment meted out by the Borough Council to the frontagers of Crabtree Lane, an ancient thoroughfare running parallel with Fulham Palace Road. The cottage owners in the road are for the most part working men, and there is a widespread impression that the Council has made oppressive use of its powers under the Private Street Works Acts. The upkeep of the highway in question has from time immemorial been a charge upon the ratepayers of the borough—a fact which may have influenced prospective purchasers of house property. Two years ago, however, there was an active extension of building operations in the vicinity, following upon a widening of Crabtree Lane. The Council seized this opportunity to enforce their compulsory powers, and levied peremptory demands upon new frontagers in respect of paving and road-making.

The grievances of the frontagers appear tangible, and it is regrettable that an attempt to enlist the arbitration of the Local Government Board has proved unsuccessful. The disaffected owners are willing to pay for the "making up" of that part of the road which was called into being by recent building operations, but they object to pay for repairs to a thoroughfare for the maintenance of which the Council has acquired a prescriptive liability. They are dissatisfied, too, with the methods of the Borough Surveyor, who, to say the least, appears to be singularly immune from the trammels of economy. It is a great pity that trifling difficulties of this character, which have elsewhere been easily and amicably surmounted, should have been permitted to engender bitterness of feeling in the borough.

WHAT ARE THE WILD DUPES SAYING?

NOTHING FOR NOTHING, AND PRECIOUS LITTLE FOR 2s. 6d.

The old "something for nothing" dodge is still being worked by persons purporting to be carrying on the business of the English Record Company, a concern which went into liquidation some time ago, but of which important event many of their customers are still in ignorance—with the result that agents are collecting instalments which should apparently be paid only to the Liquidator. We strongly advise debtors of the Company to refuse to discharge their liability to anybody other than the official appointed by the Court, as it is quite possible that money paid to representatives of the old firm may not reach him, and he would, therefore, be bound to call upon them to pay over again. Needless to say, we are in no way connected with the Company, notwithstanding that it christened its records "The John Bull," and some of its agents passed themselves off as emanating from our office. Though the Company disclaimed authorising this misrepresentation, and consented to alter the style of the type in which the name was printed on certain of their literature, we are afraid that, even now, the deception is being practised. In attempting to associate themselves with this journal, those exploiting the scheme are adding insult to injury, for we have repeatedly warned our readers against it. The usual price of the records for which they charge half-a-crown is 1s. 4d., and yet it is necessary for the poor customer to buy 52 to 60 of these before he secures his "free" gramophone! It would be interesting to have a "record" of the remarks uttered by the persons to whom the machines are thus "presented" when the real meaning of the term "free" dawns upon them!

Let "John Bull" Buy your Christmas Dinner.—1,000 Turkeys to be Won. See page 794.

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As all the world knows, Lord Leighton was one of the greatest artists of the 19th century, and his beautiful painting of "Wedded," which was exhibited at the Royal Academy, London, always attracted crowds of admirers to this—one of his greatest masterpieces.

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NIGHTMARES OF PROMINENT PEOPLE.

Yes, yes, I'm ready—I've been ready a long time—waiting for the Speaker of the Irish Parliament and the Archbishop of Canterbury Where are they? How *can* I start till they arrive? Yes, yes; I *know* I'm the Board of Trade, but so are they.—I dare not start till the Speaker arrives.—I can't help that.—Let them drown, let them be blown to pieces, let them be mangled in railway accidents.—Everybody has to die sooner or later.—We'll soon make up for lost time.—Here he is, in his wig and robes.—Urgh! how cold it is! And what a fearful stench!—Away, away!—You are not the Speaker, you are a corpse!—Help, help!—Take that thing away, for the love of heaven!—Look at its grinning skull and bony fingers!—Pah! it smells of the grave!—Oh, if only the Archbishop would come!—He is a good man.—He would protect me from this awful thing.—Help!—Who are you?—Don't stand glowering on me so menacingly!—Your eyes are scorching me!—*Who* are you?—JOHN BULL?—He said JOHN BULL!—He's got a rope in his hand, and a whip!—Help!—Where is the Archbishop?—Oh, if he would only come!—At last, at last!—Here he is!—Oh, your Grace, save me!—I *know* you are there.—You are behind that screen.—I saw your lawn sleeves.—Oh, if I could only go down on my knees to him!—But I cannot.—I'm fixed—something is holding me back!—What is it?—*What* is it?—Urgh! It has grown so dark!—I can't see!—Where am I?—Oh, and so bitterly cold—and wet.—Help! I'm in the sea!—I'm sinking!—Oh, what awful sounds!—It is the shrieking of drowning men and women and children!—They are drifting towards me!—They are trying to clutch me and drag me under!—Help!—Oh, if only the Archbishop would come!—Ah, there is a boat!—Perhaps if I struggle I can reach it.—A little farther, just a little farther!—Thank God, I'm safe now.—Heavens! it's breaking up in my hands!—It crumbles as I touch it!—I'm sinking—sinking!—Urgh!—The waters are over my head!—Poof, poof!—Ah, I can feel the ground—and I can breathe again!—Thank God!—But how dark it is!—There is no more water.—Where can I be?—What are those glimmering lights?—Phew, I can smell gas.—I must be in a coal mine!—How did I get here?—Never mind; I must get out.—I cannot stay here.—There is work to do at the Board of Trade! Ha, ha! And the Speaker of the Irish Parliament is waiting, no doubt. Ha, ha! How funny it seems!—But which is the way?—Hi, hi!—They take no notice.—They cannot have heard me.—Phew, how thick the air has become!—What a godsend!—a train!—Look at the merry passengers! How cheerful they look!—Stop, stop!—I'll ride on the engine.—Where are we going?—How warm and comfortable the footplate is!—*Now* we are travelling!—That's it—faster—faster!—Never mind the signals!—Faster, faster!!—That one was against us!—It looked red and angry!—Never mind!—This is splendid—glorious!—What's that—a train ahead? Heavens, we shall be into it!—Put on the brakes, man!—Too late, too late!—You should have watched the signals! Don't tell me!—Safety devices, indeed!—I know nothing about such things.—*Can't* you stop her?—Pull up, man—pull up!!—Oh, we're done for!—Now for the crash——!!

Where on earth am I?—Well, that's extraordinary!—I've never fallen out of bed before in my life. But what a dream!

The art of short story writing is usually acquired only after long and painful effort, during which most unguided neophytes become discouraged and give up the attempt to earn money by the pen. Miss Louise Heilgers—with whose work our readers will be familiar—has recently established a postal School of Journalism, by which, for exceedingly moderate fees, young authors will be taught the technicalities of all branches of their art. There is undoubtedly a great field for the writer of good short tales, and the aspirant to literary honours and emolument can be recommended to write to Miss Heilgers, at 45, Kenilworth Court, Putney, for details of her system of personal tuition.

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£40,000 PRIZE COMPETITION

ARE YOU SAVING YOUR 'SANDOW COINS'?

VALUABLE PRIZES OFFERED TO PURCHASERS OF SANDOW'S COCOA AND CHOCOLATE.

NOW IS THE TIME TO TRY AND WIN £1,000 IN SHARES!!!

EVERY COMPETITOR TO GAIN A PRIZE.

EXTRAORDINARY interest has been displayed all over the Kingdom since the first announcement of the truly magnificent Prize Scheme inaugurated by Sandow's Cocoa and Chocolate Company. Immediately the details appeared everybody was looking for "Sandow Coins," and the main topic of conversation was the £40,000 offered in prizes.

The Competition is attractive in every way, for everyone has an equal opportunity, and there are no hard conditions. Four hundred valuable share prizes are to be distributed, each representing a substantial amount (from £1,000 in shares downwards), and all are to be won by purchasers of Sandow's Cocoa and Chocolate. Unlike other competitions, this one is far more interesting because the efforts of Competitors become cumulative in five separate sections of the competition, the closing dates for which are March 31st, April 30th, September 30th, December 31st, 1914, and April 30th, 1915. If you do not win a prize in the first section (closing date, March 31st next), your efforts are carried forward to the next, and again until the final section, this means that your prospects are open all the while the competition is running because you will be continually adding to your entry and thus improving your chances in the prize list.

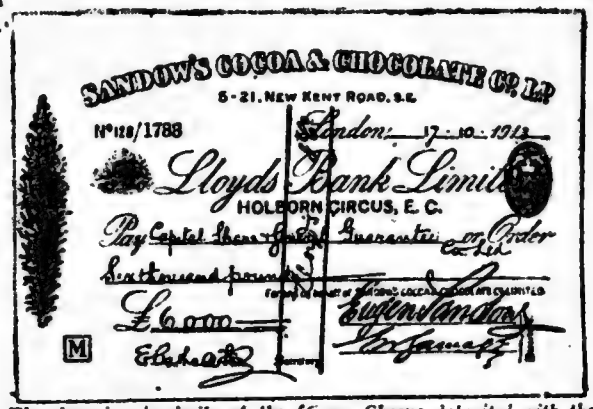
Further, the Directors have deposited with the Trustees £6,000 in cash, which will be divided amongst the winners of the Prizes by annual cash payments for 3 years (1915-16-17) equal to 5 per cent. per annum on the face value of the prizes won, but reducing by the amount of dividends paid upon the shares.

Should your tin or packet contain no coin, cut from the label the head of Mr. Sandow and save it. Heads of Mr. Sandow from tins in which there are coins cannot be sent, as they are specially marked and will not count.

SPECIAL NOTE.—To add to your chance of winning the big prizes it has been decided that the wrappers or outside covers from packets of Sandow's Chocolate shall also count. Every time you buy chocolate insist on your confectioner supplying you with Sandow's. Save the wrappers and add them to your Cocoa coins. Like the coins, each wrapper counts for its face value. A wrapper from a 1d. packet counts 1d., a 3d. wrapper counts 3d., and so on. Keep coins and wrappers together, make one packet and send them in on the date given.

Every Parcel of Coins and Wrappers sent in should contain the name and address of the sender plainly written, and also the total value of the contents, and each parcel must be addressed to

Mr. EUGEN SANDOW, Elephant and Castle, London, S.E.



The above is a facsimile of the £6,000 Cheque deposited with the Capital Share and General Guarantee Corporation in addition to the splendid sum of £40,000 in Shares and which will be distributed amongst Prizewinners in the form of Bonuses equal to 5 per cent. dividend on the face value of the prizes won.

SAVE THESE COINS

SANDOW'S COCOA.

The great sensation caused when Sandow's Cocoa was placed upon the market will be fresh in the minds of all. The British Public, always quick to appreciate the best of everything, had never before had an opportunity of tasting Cocoa of such exquisite flavour and unique quality as Sandow's Cocoa. And in hundreds of thousands of homes Sandow's Cocoa is now firmly established as the daily "drink-diet."

The nutritive value is higher than that of any other Cocoa. It is extremely easy of digestion owing to the removal of the excessive proportion of fat found in ordinary cocoa. It is readily soluble owing to the ingenious process of "windsifting" utilized in its manufacture, and it leaves no sediment in the cup. The flavour of Sandow's Cocoa is superb, being the full natural flavour of the Cocoa bean developed to perfection.

Sandow's Cocoa contains no admixtures, such as alkali, starch, flour, sugar, &c., or indigestible husk and shell so frequently found in cheap cocoa.

Sandow's Health and Strength Cocoa is an ideal diet for the brain worker, as well as for the manual labourer.

Sold by all Grocers, Chemists and Stores, 3d., 4½d., 7d., and 1/3

SANDOW'S CHOCOLATE.

Sandow's Chocolate represents the highest possible achievement in Chocolate manufacture. It possesses a truly remarkable combination of the best qualities of Sandow's Cocoa in the form of a delicious sweetmeat food. All who try Sandow's Chocolate are immediately captivated by its velvety smoothness to the palate, its delicious flavour as well as by its wonderful nutritive sustaining powers.

Sold by all Confectioners, &c., in Bars, Tablets, Napolitan, Croquettes, &c., 1d., 3d., 6d. and 1/-, also in Fancy Boxes, 6d., 1/-, 1/6, and 2/6.

IMPORTANT NOTICE!

HUGE SUPPLEMENTARY GIFTS.

Since the inauguration of this wonderful Competition owing to the great interest evinced, the Directors of the Company, in order that no Competitor may be disappointed have decided to issue Consolation Prizes to ALL Competitors at the end of the first series of Competitions, varying in value according to the amount of coins, chocolate wrappers, &c., sent in by the respective Competitors. Thus

EVERY COMPETITOR MUST WIN SOMETHING.

Think of it! You may win £1,000 in shares. If you fail in this you may win £500 in shares. But in any case you *must win a prize.* Therefore, do not delay. Commence trying for your £1,000 Share Prize NOW.

Fuller particulars of the Competition are enclosed in every tin or packet, or they can be had from your Grocer, Chemist, or Confectioner, or direct from the Company, on receipt of post-card addressed to Sandow's Cocoa and Chocolate Co. Ltd., Elephant & Castle, London, S.E.

OPEN LETTERS AND POSTCARDS.

To the Right Honourable Joseph Chamberlain, M.P.

DEAR MR. CHAMBERLAIN,—Just a respectful line to congratulate you on the celebration of your silver wedding. As the first journalist to have announced the melancholy fact of your compulsory retirement from public life, I have watched with unceasing interest and sympathy your struggle against physical suffering during these past five years, and have never failed to observe the comfort and happiness you have derived from the faithful and untiring attentions of your devoted wife. It is too much to hope that we may have the pleasure of witnessing the celebration of your *golden* wedding; but, at least, we may express the fervent hope that you may be spared to enjoy, in unbroken happiness, in the bosom of a united and distinguished family, the golden eventide of your great career.

JOHN BULL.

To the Right Hon. Lewis Harcourt, M.P., Secretary of State for the Colonies.

DEAR MR. SECRETARY,—You can scarcely be insensible to the grave perils of the existing relations between the Indian and white populations of South Africa. While eagerly availing themselves of Indian indentured labour, the predominant denizens of the Colonies have hitherto refused to permit a permanent Asiatic settlement. As a protest against this denial of citizen rights in an Empire to which they owe allegiance, two thousand Indians have recently "trekked" into the Transvaal, their march culminating in the arrest of their leader, at the instance of the South African Government. The effect of these happenings upon the minds of our subjects in India cannot well be minimised, and a way must be found to harmonise the racial prejudices of South Africans with the vital exigencies of our Imperial rule. It is not for me to declare means towards this end, but I beg you not to be deterred by such obstacles as the uninstructed sentiment of local agitators may place in your path. Above all. Louis Botha must remember that the Ministry of which he is the temporary head is *His Majesty's* Government, after all.

JOHN BULL.

To Sir John Bethell, M.P., Wanstead.

DEAR SIR JOHN,—Although your name is more suggestive of the perfect peace that is popularly supposed to pervade the atmosphere of the tin tabernacle, your nature appears to partake somewhat of the character of the denizens of the wild and woolly West. Disturbed at dead of night by suspicious sounds, you armed yourself with a six-chamber revolver and—threw open your bedroom window. So far your procedure is beyond criticism, though carping critics might suggest that you erred somewhat on the side of caution. Your next action was to fire a warning shot. A burglar emerged from your dining-room, to whom you addressed those words so dear to the heart of juvenile readers of blood and thunder literature—"Hands up!" Apparently doubting your sincerity, the burglar did not respond to your invitation, but commenced putting his feet down as rapidly as possible. Whereupon you fired, and fired again, apparently missing each time. I will not enter into the question of your boasted marksmanship. You say you could easily have killed the intruder. That may be so; but it does not explain why you missed his legs. What I want to know is, how do you justify your action in firing at all with intent to wound? Your life was not in danger. You were not menaced by bodily violence. True, you had reason to suspect that an attempt was being made to carry off some of those household treasures which, as the Scripture saith, tempt thieves to break in and steal. But that suspicion, however well-grounded it may have been, did not warrant your levelling a lethal weapon at the escaping burglar. A few silver pots and pans weigh light in the scale against a man's life, Sir John, though he be but a burglar. Moreover, having a telephone in the house, why did not you make an effort to summon the police *before* the escape of the thieves? *Was the telephone downstairs?* Altogether, I think the melodramatic part you played in the incident is a poor thing to boast about in the press, and is not likely to elevate you in the eyes of the multitudinous electors of the Romford Division.

JOHN BULL.

To the Rev. A. J. Waldron, The Vicarage, Brixton.

DEAR WALDRON,—If you have not yet received a satisfactory answer to your question, "Should A Woman Tell?" you may peradventure find it in the story revealed at the inquest on the child of a woman named Williams, living in the neighbouring parish of Battersea. Her husband, a stonemason, lived with her before he married her in January of this year, knowing she was the mother of an illegitimate child. It is not necessary to follow all the details of the case. The Coroner asked the man whether he used to taunt his wife about the child. "On certain occasions," he replied, "I admit I threw up her past life to her. I have taunted her with it, but under great provocation"; thus confirming what the woman had said when charged with murdering the child: "Yes, I should not have done it had not my husband continually taunted me about the boy." "Wilful Murder!" was the verdict of the jury, "but we believe the deed was committed under great provocation, and the man is deserving of censure." If the woman had said nothing about that illegitimate child—how different might have been the story of three lives! It isn't my intent to preach or moralise; I merely call your attention to this tragedy of a home, in case you may not have heard about it. They tell me your little playlet is doing very well indeed: "going strong," in the vernacular. Good luck to it and you.

JOHN BULL.

To H. J. Greenwood, Esq., London County Council.

DEAR MR. GREENWOOD,—There has been such an outburst of virtue in your Party that I think you were wise in resigning your membership of the L.C.C. Theatres Committee, on being discovered a director of a firm of theatrical furnishers and fitters, having a large number of their customers in London. Though I am willing to believe that the directorate of this Company did not in any degree influence you in your work and functions on the Committee, I did get a bit of a shock when I learnt that the Company did in fact send out a circular upon which it is difficult to put any other interpretation than that their object in asking you to join the Board was to secure the influence and authority of your position to the advantage of the Company.

"Although not taking an active part in the business," said this document, "we feel confident that his influence and advice will be of much service of the Company," and this after opening with particulars of your position as a public man. On your own statement, you saw and revised and approved the circular, and said nothing whatever about it until it was unearthed and produced for your discomfiture in the Council. I accept your explanation, that amid the pressure of your public work you did not give the matter that close attention which a freer and more concentrated thought would have done. It is to your credit that you have now recognised the position and done the right thing.

JOHN BULL.

To J. W. Nicholas, Esq., Llanelly, Carmarthenshire.

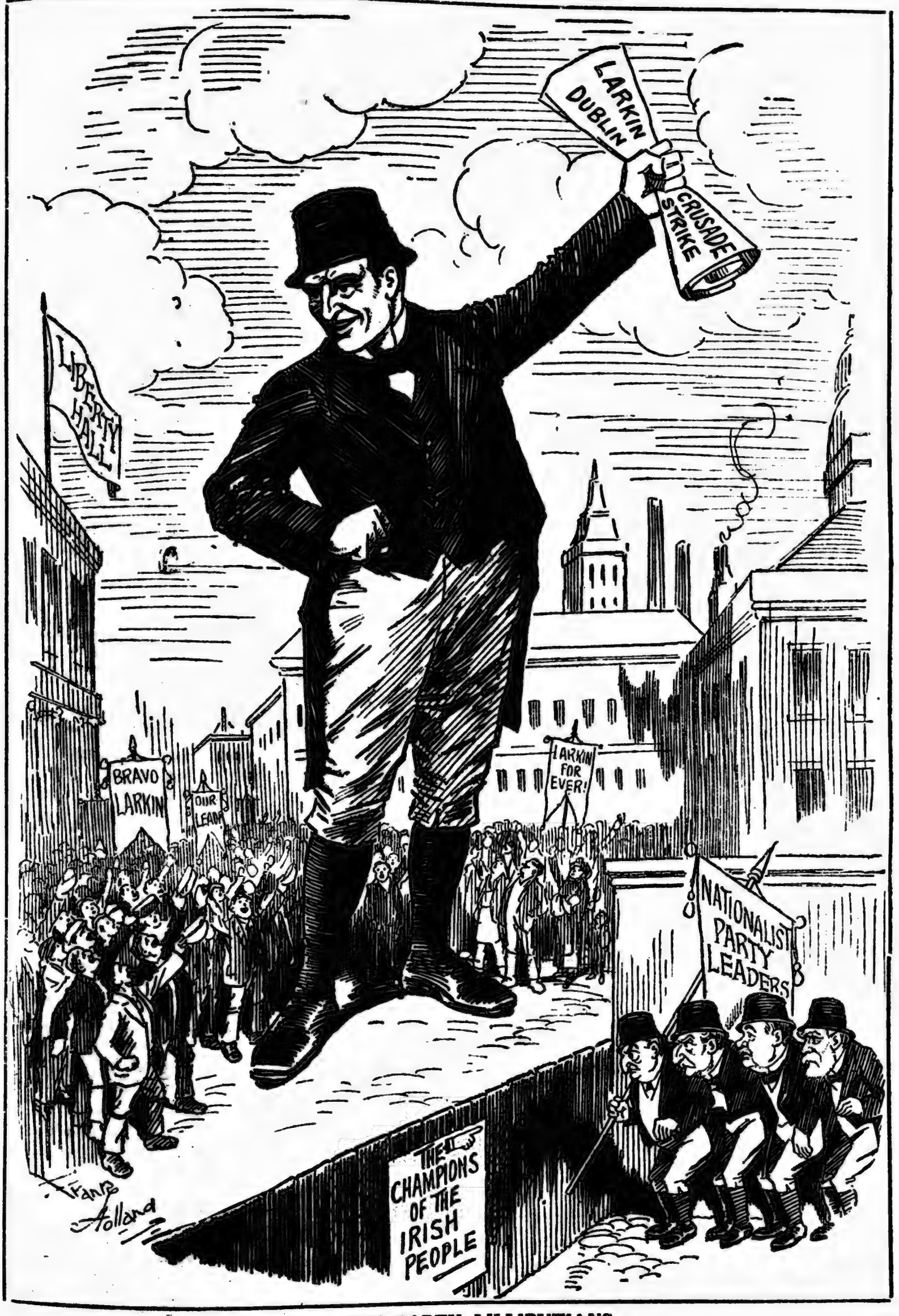
MANIFOLD SIR,—Permit me, in no envious spirit, but in the purest charity, to tender you my respectful congratulations. I learn that you have been appointed Clerk to the local Insurance Committee at a stipend of £275 per annum, and I am assured that you will discharge the multifarious duties of that office with credit to yourself and with advantage to all concerned.

Your administrative ability has already been amply tested. I gather that you are at present Clerk to the County Council, Clerk of the Peace, and Clerk to the Education Committee, to say nothing of a coronership, and one or two other odd jobs which hardly call for mention. Cheered and inspired by an aggregate official income running well into four figures, you have nobly responded to the calls of a situation which might well have bafiled the enterprise and sapped the energy of an ordinary man. Let not base detractors thwart the flight of your soaring ambition. If I mistake not, you are already sighing for fresh fields to conquer. Play the game, as you know how, and we may yet see you Town Crier, Chief Constable, *Custos Rotulorum*, and Superintendent of the Fire Brigade.

JOHN BULL.

£1,750 for an All-Correct Football Coupon. Turn to page 787.

THE IRISH GULLIVER—



AND THE PARTY LILLIPUTIANS.

HEARD IN THE TRAIN.

"WOTERBART KEIGHLEY?"

1ST WORKMAN: 'Ello, 'ere's ole Bill! Wot-o, Bill, 'ow yer goin'?

2ND WORKMAN: Orl right. 'Ow's yerself?

1ST WORKMAN: Fust rite. Ain't seen yer since the Readin' election. Wotjer fink of it? Narsty knock fur yore pawty, wosn't it?

2ND WORKMAN: Not it. We expected ter lose. We've made the Tories a present of Readin'—fur a bit.

1ST WORKMAN: I like thet! You carn't git away from a tharsand merjorety like that, ole son.

2ND WORKMAN: Sixty-eight, mate, not a tharsand. Sixty-eight over the two pawties of progress combined. Thet's wot it wos.

1ST WORKMAN: Don't tork like a damned fool! You ain't a Socialist, aw yer?

2ND WORKMAN: No.

1ST WORKMAN: W'y ain'cher?

2ND WORKMAN: 'Cos I don't believe in their views——thet's w'y.

1ST WORKMAN: Wotcher call yerself, then—a Liberal?

2ND WORKMAN: You've got it—a Liberal, mate, an' prard of it.

1ST WORKMAN: A Liberal ain't the same thing es a Socialist, then?

2ND WORKMAN: 'Corse it ain't.

1ST WORKMAN: Then wotjer mean by addin' their votes tergether, an' sayin' the Tory on'y 'ad a merjorerty of 68?

2ND WORKMAN: Well, they're both agin' the Tories, ain't they?

1ST WORKMAN: P'r'aps they are. But that don't matter. Do the Socialists believe in the Inshorance Ack?

2ND WORKMAN: 'Ow the 'ell sh'd I know? I told jer I ain't a Socialist.

1ST WORKMAN: Do they believe in 'Ome Rule?

2ND WORKMAN: Wot's the gooderve awskin' me?

1ST WORKMAN: Well, I'll tell yer—they *don't*. See?

2ND WORKMAN: Well, wot of it?

1ST WORKMAN: I'll show yer wot of it. If they'd believed in the Inshorance Ack they'd er voted fur Gooch, wouldn't they?

2ND WORKMAN: I dessay.

1ST WORKMAN: An' if they'd er believed in 'Ome Rule, they'd er voted fur Gooch, wouldn't they?

2ND WORKMAN: Very likely.

1ST WORKMAN: But they didn't, did they?

2ND WORKMAN: Didn't wot?

1ST WORKMAN: W'y, vote fur Gooch, thick 'ed!

2ND WORKMAN: 'Oo didn't?

1ST WORKMAN: W'y, the Socialists, you —— ——!

2ND WORKMAN: 'Ere, there ain't no call fur langwidge. I grawncher the Socialists didn't vote fur Gooch.

1ST WORKMAN: They didn't vote fur 'im becos they're ag'in' the Inshorance Ack and 'Ome Rule. The Tories is ag'in' the Inshorance Ack an' 'Ome Rule, so the Socialist vote ought be rights to be added to the Tories', w'ich gives the two pawties wot 'ate the Inshorance Ack and 'Ome-Rule a merjorerty of two-tharsand one-'undred-an'-ninety-four over the Liberal candidate. See?

2ND WORKMAN: Git art!

1ST WORKMAN: Git art? It's fur yore blarsted Lib'ral Guv'ment ter git art. The Readin' election's give it notice ter quit. It shows the country's fed up wiv the Inshorance Ack, 'ates 'Ome Rule, an' don't want no truck wi' Mister —— Lloyd George's Land Bustin' policy.

2ND WORKMAN: 'Ow the 'ell——

1ST WORKMAN: It shows the Br'ish electors symperthise wi' Sir Edward Carson in 'is fight fer liberty in Ulster. It shows *h*everybody's absobloominlutely —— well sick of yore rotten Guv'ment, an' wants a general election.

2ND WORKMAN: Woterbart——

1ST WORKMAN: An' look at Linlithgow. Ther sime thing. Rejuced Liberal merjorerty by over a tharsand. Annuver notice ter quit.

2ND WORKMAN: Woterbart Keighley?

1ST WORKMAN: Eh?

2ND WORKMAN: I say, woterbart Keighley?

1ST WORKMAN: Oh, to 'ell wi' Keighley! I thort this wos 'Ackney Darns. Goo' night, mate.

2ND WORKMAN: Thet's wot I wanter know: Woterbart Keighley?

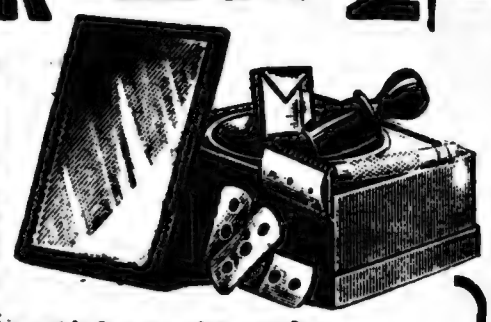
FILL your pipe with the new blend. You will appreciate its mellow charm It is made by Taddy's, who have been blending choice tobacco since the reign of George II.

TADDY'S
LONDON MIXTURE

Packed in 1-oz. and 2-oz. packets, and in 2-oz., ½lb. and 1lb. tins, 6d. per ounce.

Always smoke Taddy's Tobacco—the finest tobacco in the best blend

THE 'SLICK' COMPLETE SAFETY-RAZOR OUTFIT 2/-



Comprising nickel-finished Safety Razor, with accurate automatic blade-adjustment. Three finely tempered steel blades, each with two keen edges, well-made brush, lather pot, soap, and framed mirror for wall or dressing table. Wonderful value. The razor can be used at any angle with perfect freedom and safety and gives a close comfortable shave. No "pulling," no irritation. Send P.O. 2/- for this marvellous combination set in box complete post free.

If complete set is not required, send for the Safety Razor and 6 Blades, price 1/6, or with 12 Blades, 2/-. Extra Blades, 1/1 per doz. All post free.

Money refunded if not approved and returned immediately.

H. J. WHITE (DEPT. G), 37, ST. MARY AXE, LONDON, E.C.

ALMOST GIVEN AWAY

JOHN BULL PENS

ANOTHER LETTER.

2, Wolseley Terrace, Sunderland.

To the Editor,

Dear Sir,—The Fountain Pen arrived quite safely, and it is my daughter's wish that I should write and tell you how delighted she is with it. The last one she had (and lost) cost 12s. 6d. and was not to be compared with the "J.B." Pen. I think she has done nothing to-day but write letters to her friends (she is on holiday from college) telling them of the greatness of the "J.B." Pen and how to get one. I need hardly tell you that my friends also are hearing all about it. Success to good old "John Bull."

I am, yours faithfully,
JAMES RACKLEY.

14-CT. GOLD NIB

Cut out the coupon on page iii of cover.

JOHN BULL PENS

MEMORY

The Eminent Anatomist, J. J. Hay, Esq., 43, Russell Square, London, West End, speaking of

NATURE'S PERFECT PROCESS

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evolved by G. H. Cox, says:—"It is the one correct method to which to work for the purpose of memory training."

It rapidly developes brain and memory. Of inestimable worth to every ambitious man and yet so simple that a child can learn.

Free prospectus and full particulars from Geo. H. Cox (late Music Master, Tettenhall College), 17, Farringford, Tettenhall Road, Wolverhampton.

A BRAIN MARKET.—

Hapgoods' Organisation is a Brain Market—A Market for High-Grade Ability. If you have a Special Knowledge or Aptitude which fits to occupy a Responsible Position in any capacity—if you have Ability which is above the Average, and you want to market it to the best advantage, write us to-day for details of our service, or call.

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Artistic, Modern, and ANTIQUE.

Re **Sir J. Whittaker Ellis.** **Lady Alice Haste.** **Lady Margaret Jenkins.**
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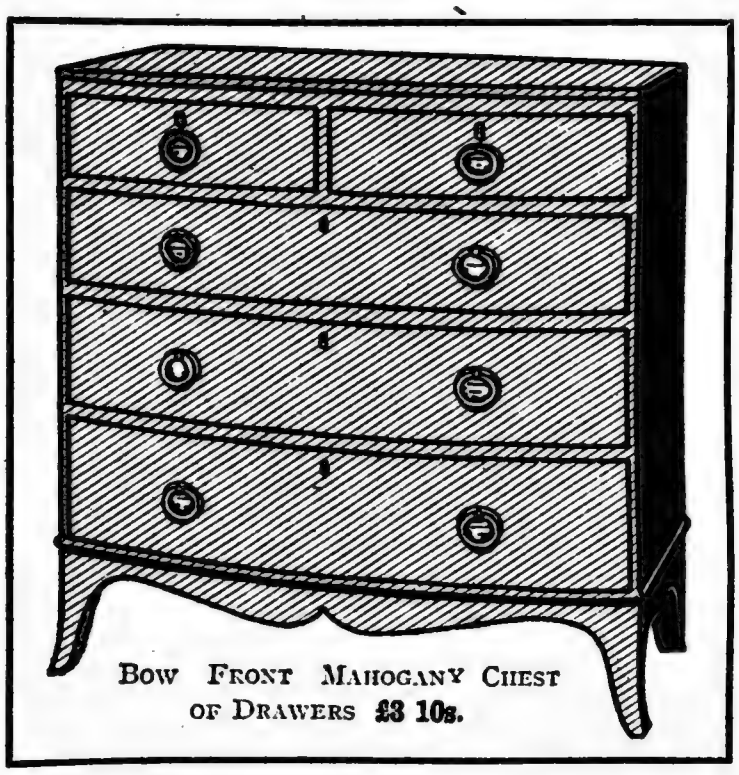
The BEDROOMS comprise Walnut, Oak, Mahogany, White, Enamelled, Inlaid and Satinwood Bedroom Suites. Very massive Brass, Italian and French Bedsteads, etc. The following will give an idea of some of the bargains to be obtained:—

Oak Bedroom Suite, **£4 10s.** White Enamel Bedroom Suites, **£4 4s.** White and Brass Bedstead, **21s.** Large Size Oak Bedroom Suite, **£7 19s. 6d.** Sheraton Design Bedroom Suite, **£8 10s.** Pair of Twin Bedsteads to match, **£3 3s.** Bow front Mahogany Chest of Drawers, **£3 10s.** 7ft. Spanish Mahogany Wardrobe, **£10 10s.** Chesterfield, **£3 15s.** Double Door Inlaid Mahogany Bedroom Suite **£18 10s.** Very handsome Inlaid Bedstead, Sheraton Design, complete with bedding, **£5 5s.** Another Sheraton Bedroom Suite, **£11 19s. 6d.** 6ft. 6in. Sheraton Design Bedroom Suite, **25 Gns.** Satinwood Bedroom Suite, Exquisite Design, **£75.** An Exhibition Satinwood Bedroom Suite, **£150,** worth Treble. Gent's Wardrobe (Antique), **£37 10s.** 6ft. Louis XV. Design Mahogany Bedroom Suite, **£32 10s.** Very Massive Square Tube All-Brass Bedstead, complete with Hair Mattress, **£3 10s.**; an absolute bargain.

The DINING ROOM, LIBRARIES, SMOKING ROOMS comprise a fine Collection of Genuine Antique Oak Furniture.

4ft. 6in. Oak Sideboard, **£4 4s.** Set of Fumed Oak Dining Chairs to match, **£4 10s.** Overmantel, **18s. 6d.** Mahogany Queen Anne Design Set of Chairs, **£9 10s.** Handsome Queen Anne Design Sideboard, **£8 15s.** 20 Easy Chairs, **21s.** Chesterfield, **£3 15s.** Piano by Carl Strauss, **25 Gns.** Very Massive Carved Oak Elizabethan Design Sideboard, **£9 9s.** 6 Small Chairs, and 2 Very Massive Carving Chairs in Carved Oak (to match Sideboard), **£7 10s.** Extending Dining Table, **£3 5s.** Large Size well-sprung Chesterfield and 2 Easies, Upholstered in Real Leather (a bargain rarely met with), **£16 10s.** Set of Chippendale Design Chairs, Ball and Claw Feet, **£16 16s.** 6ft. Chippendale Design Sideboard, **£15 15s.** Massive Extending Dining Table on Ball and Claw Feet, **£8 15s.** Welsh Dresser, **£3 10s.** Several Gate Leg Tables, **21s.** Coal Cabinet, **10s. 6d.** Walnut Sideboard, **£4 10s.** Overmantel, **25s.** Brass Curband Fire Implements, **21s.**



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The DRAWING ROOMS comprise almost New Costly Drawing Room Furniture, in all Styles, Chippendale, Sheraton, Hepplewhite, Louis XV., &c., &c.

Chesterfield in Art Tapestry, **£3 10s.** Louis XV. Design Cabinet, **£3 3s.** Suite, comprising Settee, 2 Arm Chairs and 4 Occasional Chairs, **£3 17s. 6d.** Revolving Bookcase, **25s.** Inlaid Sheraton Design Cabinet, **£4 4s.** Boule Bureau, **£5 10s.** Buhl Cabinet, **£12 10s.** Boudoir Grand Piano in Rosewood Case, **£30.** 3-Cushion Settee. **£6 10s.** Inlaid Bureau Bookcase, **£5 5s.** Bureau, **18s. 6d.** Very fine Chesterfield Suite in Art Tapestry, **£13 10s.** Satinwood Cabinet, **£12 12s.** Occasional Table, **21s.** Several Occasional Chairs, **8s. 6d.** Very fine, Louis XVI. Gilt Drawing Room Suite, **£18 18s.** 7ft. Chesterfield and 2 Easy Chairs, all Hair stuffed, a very fine set, **22 Gns.** Vernis Martin Cabinet, **£18 18s.** equal to new. Mahogany Writing Table, **£4 10s.**

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Piano in Ebonised Case, by Stemmeyer, **£17.** Piano in Rosewood Case (Collard and Collard), **£12 12s.** Boudoir Grand, by Collard and Collard, **£35.** An Upright Overstrung Piano by Strauss, **£25 10s.** Piano by Bender and Opp, **£15 19s. 6d.** Another by Emil Pauer, **£28.**

CARPETS almost New: Turkey, Indian, Persian, Mirzapore, Velvet Pile, Tapestry, Axminster, and Others. All in sound condition.

Reversible Art Squares, **8s. 6d.** Oxford Art Squares, **12s. 6d.** Bordered Velvet Pile Carpets, **£2 17s. 6d.** Very fine Axminster Square, **63s.** Tapestry Squares, **25s.** Turkey Carpets, **£3 19s. 6d.** Large Quantity of Table Linen, &c., &c. Canteen of Cutlery (100 pieces), **£7 10s.**

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IN THE BARBER'S CHAIR.

CAPTAIN WILSON, M.P.

Good ole Readin'! . . . 'Scuse me, sir, for lettin' meself go, like, but I got a bit excited about yore election, and couldn't 'elp givin' a bit of a cheer w'en I see you come in. . . . I didn't expect to 'ave the *h*onour so soon, sir. . . . Nasty knock fur the Gov-ment, ain't it, sir? . . . Jest at the beginnin' of Lloyd George's Land bustin' campaign, too! . . . Well, I never did! . . . 'Ood 'er thort it? . . . Not that I'm a Tory meself, minjer. . . .Not me. . . . I ain't a Party man . . . I got over that years ago, like wot I did the measles an' the 'oopin' corf an' other complaints. . . . I'm for the Bis'niss lay—a common-sense Bis'niss Gov'ment an' no 'ank, no log-rollin', an' no 'you scratch my 'ead an' I'll scratch yores.' . . . W'y am I so pleased erbout the Readin' result, then? . . . Well, I'll tell yer, sir, since you've arsked me. . . . It ain't becose you've won, sir, with orl respect to you, sir, an' no offence meant. . . . I ain't much of a believer in soljers bein' in Parlyment, except p'r'aps one or two, sir, to look arfter the *h*int'rests of the *H*army. . . . I think there's too many soljers and lawyers in the 'Ouse of Commons already. . . . But I'd sooner 'ave you there than a man like Gooch—a very *h*admirable man in 'is *h*own 'ome, no doubt, sir; but as a Member of Parlyment not worth two penn'orth o' gin, in my idea. . . . I clawss 'im with the cranks an' ranters—orl right fur Little Bethels an' tin tabernacle work, but not sootable fur the Parlyment of the British *H*empire, wot the sun never sat on. . . . So I'm pleased you won on that account, Capt'in. . . . But w'y I'm speshul pleased is becos it shoves another nail in the coffin of Party Gov'ment. . . . Look at the figgers. . . . You've got a merjority of 68 over the Radical and Socialist vote combined. . . . So you will really represent them 68 voters in the 'Ouse, 'cos orl the others cancel each other, donchersee? . . . Now that ain't bisniss, is it, sir? . . . S'pose them 68 'ad bin took queer, 'ad a miss in baulk, or lorst a dear relative afcre they could git to the poll. . . . w'ere'd you've bin? . . . Yes, I know you'd still 'ave 'eaded the poll, but you wouldn't 'ave represented nobody, not really. . . . And that ain't bisniss neether, is it? . . . Wot am I drivin' at? . . . W'y, the 'ole franchise law is ridic'lous. . . . There ain't no representative Gov'ment erbout it. . . . W'ere's the voice of the people wot you 'ear ser much erbout? . . . Wot price the voice of the people wot shouted fur Gooch? . . . An' as fur them wot ses the voice of the people is the voice of Gawd, orl I've gotter say is that in thet case Gawd shouted three diff'rent things at Readin', but 'appened to shout yore side the loudest. . . . Thet's orl. . . . Is thet bisniss? . . . Enny'ow, I'm glad you've won, sir. . . . Good-day, sir. . . . Much obliged.

THE SCOUT'S REPLY.

(*A Boy Scout answers, in kind, a recent poetic criticism.*)

Who sits by the side of a roaring fire,
And bombards the Scout with his cheap satire?
Who thinks he's going to rouse their ire?
The sceptic—the would-be sceptic.

Who sits at home and toasts his toes,
Commenting on his many woes,
And out o' doors won't show his nose?
The sceptic—the dare-devil sceptic?

Who tells us what we *ought* to do,
But can't show us the right *way* to?
Who dodges all the work? Too true!
The sceptic—the gas-bag sceptic!

Imagine the cynic in kharki and blue,
The last thing he'd wish for, I'm thinking—aren't you?
For when he'd once sampled the draught round his knees,
To my way of thinking he'd get the D.T.'s.

Oh, cynics—oh, sceptics, turn over a leaf,
You're really no better than louts;
Let's see you *do* something, not sit down and gas
Of those much better fellows—THE SCOUTS.

H. E. C.

When your opponent holes in one—
When by a stymie you're undone—
When lengthy putts forbid you hurry,
Just smoke Black Cat and do not worry.

BLACK CAT Cigarettes are "first choice" with all good sportsmen. The splendid quality of pure Virginia of which **Black Cat** are made appeals to the palate of the man who knows just how much a really good cigarette adds to the zest of his favourite sport. Never be without a packet of **Black Cat Cigarettes**—to refresh and stimulate you in the intervals of the game.

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It has been decided to throw this appointment open to a competitive examination in general business knowledge, which will be conducted on behalf of Messrs. A. W. Gamage, Ltd., by the Caxton Publishing Co., Ltd., of 54, Surrey Street, London, W.C., to whom all communications must be addressed.

Or £100 in Cash.

An alternative First Prize of £100 in Cash is offered in the event of the winner being already employed, or for some reason not desiring to take up such an important situation.

In addition there will be a second prize of £25 in cash, a third of £10 in cash and nine other valuable prizes.

The judges' names and the fact that the Examination is being held for the purpose of finding the best man or woman for a post in a firm so justly renowned as that of Messrs. Gamage's are a sufficient guarantee of the fairness of the test.

Nature of the Examination.

The Examination will consist of 30 questions in Business Knowledge, and no question in it will be found beyond the capacity of an average business mind.

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It is distinctly understood that sending for the Prospectus of the Examination does not commit any reader to the intention of entering the Competition. You may be already engaged in business for your own benefit, or may be earning a higher salary.

Why You Should Enter.

But the Examination project will nevertheless interest you. You may wish to bring it to the attention of some employee, some junior, or some friend. It is quite certain that the research and thought which would be bestowed on business subjects will make your employee or subordinate more useful in his or her work.

Although you may not wish for the £200 salary, the alternative prize of £100 in money may appeal to you.

How it Concerns You.

But you, if engaged in business, will undoubtedly find the Examination interesting and informing. It will enlarge your views on Commercial Life. It will lead you to the consideration of problems which might never have occurred to you. It will unquestionably suggest new trains of business thought, and perhaps bring you into contact with ideas having practical value. Without consuming many hours of your time, it will offer you profitable recreation during the long evenings. And, in addition, there are eleven substantial prizes.

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TAPPING THE TELEPHONE.

BY OUR PET "HELLO" GIRL.

THE TWO BISHOPS.

Er—are you thar?—Are you thar?—Er—hallow!—Is that your Grace?—Ah; I'm Kensington.—I er—wanted a few words with you with respect to our campaign against the er—music halls.—Can you heah me?—Good.—I?—Oh, yes, excellently, thank you.—I expect you have noticed that the *Daily Mail* is taking our side.—Yes, yes; rather puzzling, is it not?—So *very* unexpected.—I er—wondah what it means.—Yes, yes; quite so. We must be ready to accept any help in such a cause.—Alfred Butt and George Bernard Shaw are powerful antagonists, you know.—We shall have as much as we can do to outgeneral them.—Yes, yes; it is unfortunate.—Undoubtedly, the Censorship *has* played into Butt's hands—quite so; but what I think is rather worse is G. B. Shaw turning and attacking the Church, carrying the war into the enemy's country, as he no doubt calls it.—You see, there have been a good many unfortunate scandals in the Church of late—erring brothers have to a certain extent brought the clergy as a body into disrepute.—Oh, I *quite* agree; but at the same time the fact remains, and—well, we know how prone the general public are to seize upon such things and make capital out of them.—No, not for one moment. I think you should know me better than that.—I am not likely to er—weaken in any cause I take up.—Well, yes, I suppose it would be more just it we *were* to see these horrible performances ourselves before passing judgment upon them.—As you say, second-hand evidence is not always reliable.—Not that we question the truth and sincerity of those deah brothers whose zeal and self-sacrifice have given them strength to witness those immoral spectacles of which we complain.—Oh, no; but zeal, alas, sometimes carries one away and causes one to see what really does not exist.—But, by the way, does not the fact that this er—Miss Gaby Deslys has gone to America rather complicate matters?—Certainly, we cannot witness her performance.—Continue to rely upon the evidence of those who have?—Quite so; nothing else to be done.—Having made that one of our specific charges we er—cannot go back on it, or drop it without discredit.—By the way, do you know exactly what it was she did or said that justified the charge of suggestiveness or indecency?—No?—That is rather unfortunate.—I cannot get a clear account—only nods and winks, and raised hands and eyebrows, you know.—I hear she appeared partly unclothed.—Yes, yes, I know—being an unmarried man you might think so. But after all, is there so very much in that?—What about the ladies of our own social circle who appear only partially clothed at dinner, you know?—Ha, ha!—No, no! we must keep the Rev. F. B. Meyer out of this at any cost.—He is such an extremist, you know—sure to do more harm than good.—We must, for the credit of the Church, and to prove our breadth of mind, show a little more tolerance than the nonconformist puritans.—The Church and the Stage have always been such good friends, so we must go as er—lightly as we can.—What do you say to our doing a round of the "halls" disguised?—That certainly is the only way to see exactly what is going on.—Will you?—Er—how do you propose to disguise yourself?—Your face is so familiah to London folk, you know.—All right, don't tell me—and I won't tell you.—Yes, under the clock on Charing Cross station.—It will be an excellent test.—Er—we ought to have a good time, what?—Oh, say seven o'clock.—We might have a bit of dinner at one of the smart little Soho restaurants first, eh?—Ha, ha! It will recall our 'Varsity days, won't it, when even *we* had an eye for a neat ankle and a pretty calf.—What?—Oh, nooo! nevah!—But it isn't easy to forget, is it?—Good-bye, good-bye.—Yes, yes; under the clock.—*Good*-bye.

Pills and potions may come and go, but "Homocea" still remains "on the spot," and is apparently to-day as deeply entrenched in the affections of its myriads of users as when it was introduced to the public. This may be regarded as one of the best possible testimonials of its efficacy in the hundred and one minor accidents which beset our path from the cradle to the grave.

NERVOUS INDIGESTION.

A message of hope for all who suffer from headache, wind, food sickness, and sleeplessness. How you may be cured and made bright and well by Dr. Cassell's Tablets.

Mrs. Bower, Huddersfield.

Have you ever experienced that low, sinking feeling that takes all the spring and snap out of you, and leaves you hardly able to drag about? That feeling is due to nerve weakness—that is, loss or leaking away of vital force—and consequent weakening of the digestive process. Now it is precisely to restore this vital force that Dr. Cassell's Tablets were devised, and they do restore it—every time. Why? Because there is a Healing Force latent in Dr. Cassell's Tablets—stored in them just as the summer heat of long past ages is stored in the coal we burn—and this Healing Force, acting on the nerve cells and tissue cells of the body, re-establishes vital equilibrium, and so compels health. That is why they cured Mrs. Bower, why they are curing thousands of work-worn, nerve-jaded men and women everywhere, why they will cure you just as soon as you begin taking them, and that should be now.

Mrs. Bower lives at 76, Whitehead Lane, Huddersfield, and this is what she says:—"I had no relish for food, and what I did eat did me no good. I was constantly troubled with a low, sinking feeling that took all the life out of me, and sometimes I was bilious, with headaches and wind. The worst of all was that I couldn't sleep at nights, and I got ever so weak and thin.

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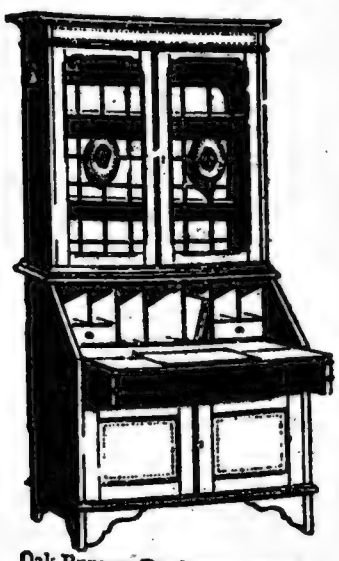

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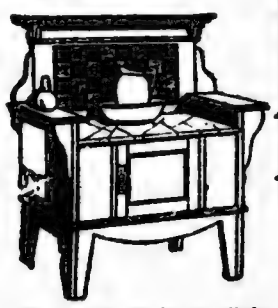

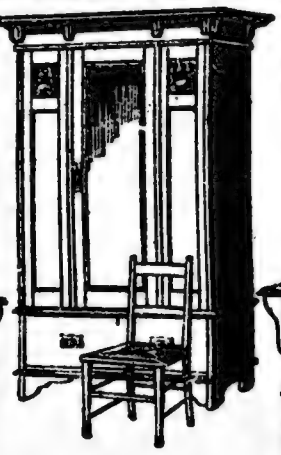

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"John Bull's" Letter Bag.

The EDITOR replies to, and has a chat with, some of his numerous correspondents.]

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.—Will readers, when forwarding cuttings from newspapers, take care that in each case a sufficient portion is sent to identify the name of the paper and the date of issue?

CORRESPONDENTS, when writing regarding previous communications which they may have addressed to us, should always mention the nature of the matter therein referred to. Owing to the great increase in the number of INQUIRIES *received, consequent upon the continual growth in our circulation, it is no longer possible to answer them all in "Letter Bag," and* ONLY THOSE OF GENERAL INTEREST *will be noticed. The Editor will, of course, still be grateful for information, "biscuit" material, newspaper cuttings, etc.*

AUTHORS and ARTISTS *submitting MSS. and drawings for consideration must write name and address upon the back of their work. The Editor cannot accept any responsibility for the safe custody of MSS., etc., so forwarded, but will endeavour to return unaccepted work* WHEN STAMPED, ADDRESSED ENVELOPE IS ATTACHED TO THE MANUSCRIPT. ALL MATTER SUBMITTED MUST BE ORIGINAL UNLESS OTHERWISE STATED. *The most suitable lengths for articles and stories are about 750 words (one column), or 1,500 words (a page).*

The EDITOR *cannot express any opinion upon the value of postage stamps, old china, pictures, coins, books, etc.*

CORRESPONDENTS ARE REQUESTED NOT TO SEND ORIGINAL CERTIFICATES, TESTIMONIALS, ETC., *as, though every effort is made for their safe custody, they are liable to be mislaid. Copies only of such documents should be forwarded in the first instance.*

CORRESPONDENTS desiring INFORMATION *should place their questions in* CONCISE *form and refrain from sending* VOLUMINOUS DOCUMENTS, *at any rate until asked for them. The Editor is quite unable to devote the time necessary for perusing and considering the scores of folios which correspondents sometimes send.*

For Financial and Insurance Replies, see page 792.
For Sporting Replies, see page 796.

THE EDITOR returns thanks to the numerous readers who have written congratulating him on his recent escape in the Melun railway accident.

C. W. (Rotherhithe).—Though "two years since" is a long time to go, supposing you have all the receipts, are only 33s in arrear, and are ready and willing to pay the money, our opinion is that the London Furnishing Co. (Smart Bros.), London Road, S.E., should return you the furniture they took away and for which you say you have paid £9 17s. Let them see this reply.

M. B. (Manchester).—Your postcard says: "Have just seen your contents bill. 'Devlin Plays the Devil. Why not 'The Devil in Devlin'?" Can't think of everything at once.

D. T. (Ruabon).—Your idea is that we should hang ignorance before we hang McKenna. But consider how many people are ignorant and don't know it, and how many others are ignorant and can't help it. It isn't reasonable to expect us to kill everybody who doesn't agree with us.

C. H. S (Wealdstone).—You should not have taken the trouble to go down to the Chesham meeting. Many thanks, however.

E. B. (Lee).—Much regret we have only now reached your "Bullets" Birthday Card. We appreciate its terse verse none the less for that: "Now all ye good readers of worthy JOHN BULL, just come to the scratch and have a good pull, at the bundle of hay the editor offers his numerous friends to replenish their coffers. . . . Don't blame dear old JOHN if you fail to make hits; though he can't fill all purses he sharpens all wits."

W. E. (Walthamstow).—Sorry you were simple enough to send "Hugh McKean" 12s. for his "Instructions for Running a Mail Order Business." Don't make matters worse by swallowing the bait of H. B. Edwards, Shipping Inquiry Agent, of 472, High Road, Chiswick, although he asks for only 2s.

T. C. (Chelmsford).—"Alice Leach," matrimonial agent, who operates from The Hollies, London Road, Isleworth, London, W., is very suitably named

"HOPE EVER" (Hove).—Good gracious us! You have worked hard at every kind of competition for 42 years, week after week and year after year, and still have not won a prize. As you say, perhaps in another 42 years—well, good luck to you, anyhow. You deserve it.

E. H. E. (Lewisham).—The only way of obtaining such berths as those of stewards on board liners is to communicate with the various Superintendents at the ports of embarkation—though such jobs naturally rarely go to anybody who is not personally known to the owners.

P. P. (Grantham), C. W. (Plymouth), W. T. (Ferndale), W. C. (Matlock), AND MANY OTHERS, ask our advice and assistance in connection with various safety devices they have invented for the prevention of railway accidents. Whilst the "Board" of Trade is run on its present lines we scarcely know what to recommend them to do. Rebuffs and insults, rudeness and indifference, seem nowadays to be the reward of inventors who approach Mr. Sydney Buxton's department with life-saving devices. In the coming day of the Business Government such matters will receive the prompt and intelligent consideration they warrant. But, we fear, not till then.

"SHIRKBROOK."—When we said that certain tea-shop girls in London wore dainty blouses cut as low as the fifth button on a man's waistcoat, we of course meant counting upwards. It is not our fault that your waistcoat is provided with only four buttons.

A. F. S. (Edinburgh).—Jane Ann is neither married nor turned suffragette, so far as we know. Judging from what we have heard of the young lady, she was quite satisfied with her lot, without recourse to either alternative.

E. J. L. B. (London, S.W.) and E. W. (Goswell Road, London).—We believe in blood and breed, because we believe the evidence of our own eyes. Your reference to the M.C.C. team or South Africa and suggestion that in cricket "coaching and early training count rather more than blood," does not shake our opinion. You can have a "well-bred" draught horse and a "well-bred" hunter. So can you have a "well-bred" labourer and a "well-bred" aristocrat. Each is the best of its kind.

"INQUIRER" (Kirkby Stephen).—Why should not ex-Army men be made "Board of Trade Inspectors Local Government Inspectors, Chief Constables, &c."? Should such men, when they have served their country, be turned adrift on their meagre pensions? Are you intentionally insulting when you say that in most cases they are "round pigs (*sic*) in square holes"? We have never heard a rasher statement.

F. J. B. (Woolston).—Both the Lancashire Clothing Club, of Burnley, and the Supply Stores you mention, should be smothered under their own "drapery bales."

S. R. D. M. (N. Shields).—Thanks for sight of your correspondence with the Committee of Boats and Davits. As regards Talbot Mundy, author of a story in a recent number of the *Strand Magazine*, wouldn't it be better to communicate with him through the editor of that publication? Your ancestry is not a matter of public interest.

A. C. (Chatham) is scandalised because the band which accompanied a naval funeral as far as the railway station, playing "Chopin's March," returned to the tune of "Who were you with last night?" It's a way they have in the Navy and the Army too, for that matter. And why not? Let the dead bury the dead.

"A GUEST" (Burton-on-Trent) writes with reference to a wedding we recently commented upon, saying: "The bridegroom's name was not Veal as stated by your correspondent, but *vica versa*." We trust Mr. Vica Versa has enjoyed his honeymoon.

A. E. H. F. (Batley).—Your anecdote of the hotel manager, the lady visitor, and the bath, is of no use to us. It is too tepid.

"WONDERING" (Nottingham) states that he has written to seven different firms in France during the past few weeks for their catalogues of photos, etc., and in some cases enclosing postal orders or stamps, but has not received a reply from a single one of them. Perhaps the catalogues come under the heading of indecent pictures, and are confiscated by the G.P.O. officials on this side.

B. G. (Southend).—Glad your client has got his money back from the Roman Solvene Co., Ltd. A very satisfactory way of solvene the difficulty.

G. J. (Stockport).—Sorry, but we cannot spare time to find you a spare-time situation.

MRS. I. M. M. (Nottingham).—We are afraid the Alhambra Warehouse, Free Street, Bradford, is like the rest of the "goods on receipt of deposit *and instalments*" firms. It is unlikely that you will get your 4s. back from them.

P. A. M. (Southfields, S.W.).—The conditions printed on the piece of a cardboard-box you send us, which contained tins of "Cherry Blossom" boot polish, would not, we think, be held as a contract in a court of law.

"LAND O'CAKES" (Glasgow).—If you will take down your Bible from the top shelf and dust it, you will find that, whilst condemning excessive drinking, it approves and even recommends the moderate use of wine. So do we. That is why we wrote "Blessed be Beer." Even water will drown a teetotaler if he falls into it, and many men dig their graves with their teeth.

C. J. R. (Norwich) reports the death of a Mrs. Stockings, who was attended in her last moments by a nurse Sock. Well, we're darned!

Four Football Prizes MUST BE WON: £300, £100, £50 and £20. Last Coupon page ii. of cover.

W. B. (Malton) refutes the statement of the Malton Salvation Army corps that on the night of September 6th they collected 49 drunken men in Malton and Norton and marched them to the barracks. He declares that there were no more than 50 in the procession, including the S.A. warriors. Glad there was one sober. The Captain, we presume.

MRS. C. (Mosely).—If the people at the café in New Street, Birmingham, charged your daughter 3d. for a penny piece of cake, because they do not make out checks for a less amount, she should have said "All right, I'll take two more pieces."

G. E. H. (Blandford).—Your lines about the pauper and the uncooked pea may be true, but they are not particularly savoury. If we printed them we might find ourselves in the soup.

J. B. O. (Dartmouth).—Your district must be a veritable paradise for the agricultural labourer, with his 5s. a day harvest pay, free cider, free rabbits, rent free cottages, free manure for his free garden, and free milk for his children. We are glad of it. If the same tale could be told of all agricultural districts, England would indeed be Merrie England still.

"ILLITERATE" (Belfast).—The present situation in Ireland is a striking manifestation of the evils of the "Party" system of government. Party intrigue in the House of Commons is at the root of the trouble. With a Business Government, there would be no Irish question.

F. M. (Aberdeen).—Your story of the lost half-sovereign and Helen Hunt is as old as the hills. Did you go to Helen Hunt for it?

THE MANAGER of 107, Highbury New Park, N., writes echoing the strong terms we applied to the action of the man Walsdorf, who sent out from that address disgusting circulars in open envelopes, and asks us to state that the rascal was merely a boarder there, being satisfactorily introduced; that the management had no knowledge of the nature of his business until the police produced one of his circulars, and that thereupon he was turned out of the house. Doubtless his room was properly fumigated upon his hurried departure.

T. H. (Deptford Park) also complains of the methods of the touts employed by Davis and Porter, of 12, Paternoster Row, "Publishers and Periodical Agents for the Cheap Complete and Family Bible and other Illustrated Standard Works." When will persons in poor circumstances learn that orders given in haste are usually repented at leisure?

W. B. (Plymouth).—If we did P.C. Braund, of the Stonehouse Police, an injustice in a recent paragraph, it strikes us as strange that yours is the only protest we have received. How do you account for that?

R. W. (Luton).—We believe the British School of Motoring to be a respectable concern, but more than this we cannot say.

A. S. (Chelmsford).—Are you compelled to send your son, 5½ years of age, to school "along 2½ miles of bad country road this winter"? You are, the distance being under three miles, unless you can give the child efficient instruction at home or at a private school, or can obtain a doctor's certificate certifying that he is too weak to walk the distance.

D. P. (Vancouver).—Don't see why the Vancouver *Truth* should worry so much about the clothes of British newcomers. Its allegation that the way tailors in England fit their clothes is to take a web of cloth, wrap it round their legs until it is tight, tack it down the edges with spikes, and then manipulate a sewing machine on the outside; "after this the pants are pulled off with a button-hook and——" looks like a sample of Canadian humour. The *Truth* ought to know it isn't the coat that makes the man—or even the trousers.

BESSIE K. (Barrow-in-Furness) again insists that "Every thrust . . . and every blow . . . *are* . . ." is correct grammar, in which opinion she is supported by several of her fellow teachers. Our office boy thinks otherwise. We must leave them to settle the knotty point between themselves.

"WOOTTON *v.* SIEVIER" (Cheshunt).—Turn up Meyer's evidence in the newspaper files and see for yourself. We are too busy.

H. B. (Holborn, W.C.) states that one of the Greenwich Magistrates is too deaf to hear distinctly the evidence of witnesses. What does it matter? Since Justice is declared to be blind, why not deaf as well?

MRS. —— (London, Ont.).—"Women and girls are in great demand and get high wages." So they ought, considering what they have to do and where they have to go. "It is true the Canadians dislike the English and cold shoulder them in the nastiest way." There is ample evidence of that; but when the Canadians want a few millions of money, having very little of their own, they always come to England to borrow it.

"MOTOR" (Kidderminster).—We never heard of the "British Motor Cub Co., Ltd.," who, you tell us, undertake to teach "the knowledge of London and Motor bat Driving free of charge." A "Motor bat" would certainly brighten cricket.

D. A. N. W.—Your information *re* Moore's, Brixton Road, S.W., is received and noted.

J. G. (Holloway).—We cannot recommend Tanner and Co., Employment Agents, of 27, St. Dunstan's Hill, E.C.

W. R. (Bootle).—The Church of England is not financially supported, directly, by the State, if that is what you mean, but law and custom have confirmed to it for exclusive use and maintenance valuable properties originally intended for the benefit of the whole community, and from this it derives large revenues which it administers in such a way that its high-ecclesiastics delight in fatness at one end, while its working clergy starve at the other.

C. F. (Leeds).—No form of fraud is unique, and the one you describe to us is of ancient days.

C. N. (Sheffield).—Much interested in your statement of "solid facts." Can only advise you to see your father-in-law and talk it over, man to man.

G. S. (London, N.W.).—We don't agree with you that Lloyd George is "a very wicked man." We are inclined to think he means well. "Give the Devil his due." We are aware that "decent people insured before Lloyd George was born." Now indecent people have to insure.

"OLIVER TWIST" (Dorking) "thirsts to know, is there in life such a thing as perfect equipoise?" The only *perfect* thing we have ever met with in life was a perfect ass. As to whether a woman with a "blessed or cursed artistic temperament" can live in harmony with a husband who has not "one grain of the kind in common," our reply is, not in Dorking.

E. K. (London, S.E.).—The negroes may outnumber the whites in Selma, Ala., but Selma is not the whole of the United States, is it? We call negroes coloured gentlemen because they are not black. If they were they would be no colour at all.

H. B. (Crayford) inquires the address of a "London firm who give lessons in Ju-jitsu." The Metropolitan Police often give lessons in the art—free, gratis, and for nothing.

"CANTAB" (Salisbury).—Quite right. One of the first things necessary to improve agriculture and the lot of the farm labourer in this country is to give the farmer security of tenure. At present most of them feel like lodgers waiting for notice to quit, which checks their enterprise.

MRS. F. (Kent).—The letter from the G.P.O. is quite fair. You must remember that the rate of postage to Italy is 2½d. per ounce, and that when there is a deficiency of stamps the charge is doubled.

H. V. T. (Edmonton).—The paying guest agency you refer to may be a genuine concern, but we are always suspicious when guinea fees are demanded in advance.

J. M. (Eastney).—So sailors, too, like beer, and think there is none of it bad though some is worse than it should be? Strange what unanimity of opinion there is on this great question.

W. G. (Normanton).—The letter from "B. S." (Innerleithen) which we recently printed was nothing to some of the gems we receive, although, as you remark, we have had Free Education (?) for the past twenty years.

A. C. (Tottenham).—You don't make your case clear, so we cannot take it up. Moreover, our address is not "James Street, Long Hacker, London."

"LIGHTNING" (Coventry) asks us to recommend "a text-book or treatise on Commercial Calculating, giving an exposition of the quickest manner to work out costs and general working." He had better inquire of Longmans, or any other educational publisher—or go into a solicitor's office.

"CHANGER" (Fulham, S.W.).—Post offices are not "change shops," and have a legal right to refuse to accept a sovereign in payment for two penny stamps. Had you purchased a shilling's worth the sovereign would then have been legal tender. You are lucky to have had a sovereign these hard times.

J. T. M. (Birmingham).—The account of what you claim to have been your unjust confinement in a lunatic asylum, and your escape, has greatly interested us. But since you are now free, we think no useful purpose would be served by taking up the case. On the other hand, it might work to your detriment.

"SCHOOLBOY IN MISCHIEF" says the teacher keeps hitting him because, she tells him, he is always in mischief; and, he adds, "the top boy hits me also. What would you do?" Hit him back, and make love to the teacher.

W. McG. (Edinburgh).—One would certainly expect a Dairy Inspector to know that a "green cow" is one that has recently calved, and not one that has been out to grass. What a green Inspector!

R. O. (Durham) has evidently mistaken us for the *Lancet* or the *British Medical Journal*, for he writes: "Would you please tell me what vaccination is, what it does, and why it is done?" Certainly. Firstly, vaccination is inoculation; secondly, it inoculates; and lastly, it is done for the purpose of inoculating. For further information, apply to Mr. Will Crooks, M.P.

(A large number of replies are held over.)

For Result of Football Competition No. 4, see page 761.

Bull's Eyes.

Notes of Interrogation:—

Must Tango tea necessarily be served "hot"?
Isn't Piccadilly quite "wide" enough already?
How does the Premier like the new "Reading"?
Are the music-halls in for another "nasty turn"?
Wasn't the "Ritual Trial" a "Jewdicial" error?
Isn't the theatre queue a matter of "Wait and See"?
Have you "struck" those matches on page ii. of cover?
Do the Post Office employees feel like "Civil" servants now?
Isn't the Government finding that Larkin' may cost too much?
Hasn't the International Boxing Union fairly "outed" Johnson?
Do the London musicians think that the managers will dance to their tune?
When they spoke of the Palace Theatre, wasn't the accent on the "lace"?
Is the stated decrease in tramps due to the large creation of official "jobs"?

* * *

When a Man Feels like a Worm:—

When caught in a crowded first-class compartment with a third-class ticket.
When he goes with the wife to buy the bassinette, to find the assistant the girl he jilted.
When, in handing his card to the pretty girl, he drops something, and she picks up a pawnticket.
When he has borrowed a fiver "to save the home," and meets his benefactor in the Stalls at the Empire
When he dines at a swell restaurant with his best girl, and finds he hasn't enough money to pay the bill.
When he returns late, and his wife is soothing him after the extra work at the office, he brings out the dance programme with his handkerchief.

* * *

Natural Freaks:—

A bat will often produce ducks.
A little corn often produces hops.
Whiskers coming up begin to grow down
A little cod sometimes produces a good place.
A pretty Rose will often bring up a Sweet William.

* * *

The Butler has shown the Liberal out at Reading.

* * *

A man sweeping in his assertions usually kicks up a dust.

* * *

"Don't burn money," says an advertisement. No need, it melts.

* * *

A hunted stag took refuge in a larder at Epsom. Intelligent anticipation.

* * *

"Avoid bazaars like poison," says Archdeacon Norris. Well, they *are* a sell.

* * *

"Colds Caused by Kissing," we read. But surely more often they generate heat?

* * *

The quantity of medicine swallowed daily is a proof that faith is not lost in mankind.

* * *

Torchlight won a race a Newmarket by two lengths. It must have been a "procession."

* * *

"Electrified water" has been produced in Paris. But a strong current in water is nothing new.

* * *

"Baby Upside Down," reads a newspaper heading. Perhaps it was the only way to make it "Pégoud."

* * *

A hen in Sussex lays an egg each morning in a library. Perhaps she is trying to imitate the cook by laying one on Bacon.

* * *

The only novelty about the live shark being shown in a shop at Southwold is, that the establishment is not a "bucket shop."

* * *

"Did she offer any resistance?" asked the magistrate of a policeman. "Yes, she started undressing herself," was the reply.

* * *

While trapping rabbits, a Devonshire man found a King Charles half-crown. But it was a whole crown that King Charles lost.

* * *

The Chinese do most things directly opposite to ourselves, but they have not yet succeeded in producing a cockerel who crows "Cock-a-Doodle-Don't."

* * *

The Nile is now so low that Egypt finds great relief in a dam.

* * *

Dollar, N.B., has done right to choose a lady provost; she'll look after it.

* * *

Golden hair: that lock of Goethe's which was sold for £1,200 at St. Petersburg.

* * *

"Habit is a kind of epidermis," says a writer. Yes, a bad one is soon spotted.

* * *

A limit is to be placed on the height of New York sky-scrapers. Haven't they passed it?

* * *

"Born of a Woman," is the title of a novel. What an extraordinary person the hero must be!

* * *

A clock which figured in a Bow Street case was said to be worth £4,000. No wonder it "went."

* * *

The "Chandelier" gown is the latest from Paris. We fear unkind critics will make "light" of it.

* * *

"Bohemia is not troubled with flies," says a consular report. But the blue bottles are rather plentiful.

* * *

A Frankfurt convict has won £1,500 in a lottery. It should make the "time" pass more pleasantly.

* * *

A New Jersey man of seventy-eight has eloped with a lady of sixty-five. "Flighty" young things!

* * *

There has been an outcry against "straphanging" in Birmingham. It is undoubtedly a "standing" evil.

* * *

Mr. Desmond Coke says it is every man's duty to see his profile once. Yes, once will be about enough.

* * *

A grocer's notice reads: "Gentlemen's breakfast eggs twopence each." We prefer hen's eggs, ourselves.

* * *

A lady doctor says women shoul dprescribe for one another. Very often the prescription would be rat poison.

* * *

M. Pégoud "looped the loop" thirty times at Ghent the other day. He must have been giving an "extra turn."

* * *

Mr. Bonar Law likened Mr. Lloyd George to Macbeth. Does he suggest fowl murder and pheasant murder, too?

* * *

Schoolboys of Duns, Berwickshire, have been on strike against home-lessons. We are going to strike against Duns.

* * *

"A Ministry ought to be like an orchestra," says a contemporary. What, composed of "instruments"?

* * *

Lord Barnard says the threepenny piece is the vilest of coins. But sooner or later they all find their way to church.

* * *

The live bottle-nosed shark to be seen in a shop at Southwold is not, we understand, running a mock-auction.

* * *

A boycott of Guinness' stout is threatened in Dublin. Do the strikers expect to catch the capitalists on the hop?

* * *

A weekly paper says that the Queen has put her foot down in the matter of silk stockings. Quite the correct thing to do.

* * *

Bishop Wilberforce found a cure for sleeplessness by repeating "a-e-i-o." It's when you repeat "i-o-u" that you wake up.

* * *

There is said to be five times as much insanity in the Strand as in Bethnal Green. Well, look at the number of "hatters"!

* * *

The Parisian lover who was fined for biting off the tip of his sweetheart's nose should have been bound over to keep the pieces.

* * *

"Must the King do what he is bid?" asks Lord Halsbury. Certainly not; he can tell the Premier to go to—the country.

* * *

A rich African gold mine was sold by a native for a pair of trousers and a cricket cap. But even then he "covered" himself.

* * *

A Washington bishop says that lean men are bad, and fat men good. Just the man to suit the cannibal taste in missionaries.

* * *

In a Southsea church the electrophone has been laid on between the pulpit and a Home for the Dying. Why not let them depart in peace?

£650 Football Prizes again awarded. Total won this season: £4,800.

£650 AGAIN AWARDED (see page 761) **MAKING £4,800 WON THIS SEASON**

A Fourth £1,750!

FOR AN ALL-CORRECT FOOTBALL COUPON

FINAL COUPON FOR THIS COMPETITION. (See Page ii. of cover.)

£500 IF ONE ERROR ONLY

£4,800 ALREADY WON THIS SEASON.

£300 FOR NEXT HIGHEST CORRECT FORECASTS — *MUST* BE WON

£100 FOR SECOND HIGHEST CORRECT — *MUST* BE WON

£50 FOR MOST CORRECT MAUVE COUPON — *MUST* BE WON

£20 FOR SECOND MOST CORRECT MAUVE — *MUST* BE WON

ALL YOU HAVE TO DO

is to forecast the results of the League Games to be played on Saturday, November 29th, given on the Entrance Form on page 2 of our cover. Draw your pen plainly through the name of the team you think will lose. If you predict a draw, do not cross out either team.

£1,750 will be paid to the Competitor sending us an Entrance Form containing correct forecasts of all the matches given, played to a finish.

Abandoned Matches make No Difference.

Should it happen that no Entrance Form be received giving the whole of the correct results **£500** will be paid to the competitor whose coupon shows **one error only.** In the unlikely event of neither the **£1,750** nor the **£500** being won we shall still award four distinct cash prizes which must be won. **£300** to the competitor sending most correct forecasts, even if the number be as few as 8 or 10. **£100** to the sender of the next highest number of correct forecasts, and **Two Special Mauve Coupon** prizes — **£50** for the most correct forecasts on a mauve coupon taken from "Mary Bull" and **£20** for the next best forecasts on a mauve coupon. In any event two big cash prizes must be won by "Mary Bull" coupons.

In view of the fact that our premier prize of **£1,750** has been **won twice** we anticipate that the **£1,750** will have to be paid by us in the present contest. But in any case four big cash prizes—*i.e.*, **£300, £100, £50** and **£20** must be won—the biggest must-be-won prizes offered by any paper.

The competition is one of pure skill, and competitors should make a point of studying the football columns of the daily papers

The RULES and COUPON will be found on PAGE 2 of COVER.

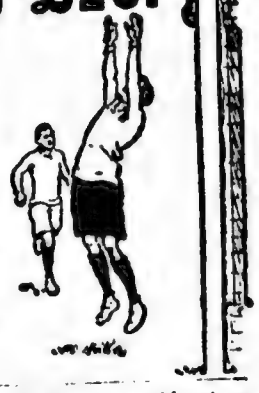
We now give with the entrance form on page 2 of cover a duplicate coupon. This is provided solely for the convenience of competitors desirous of keeping a record of their efforts. It must on no account be sent in, and will not be accepted as proof of forecasts made on the Entrance Form.

Our system of checking the Entrance Forms of competitors is as perfect as human ingenuity can make it. Fraud is rendered absolutely impossible, whilst all risk of a coupon being overlooked is, by our elaborate arrangements, totally eliminated.

TWO "MAUVE" COUPON PRIZES £50 AND £20.

Our Mauve Coupon prizes have proved so popular with our lady readers that we offer this time **two** special mauve coupon prizes— **£50** cash will be awarded to the sender of the most correct forecasts on a mauve coupon taken from "Mary Bull" and **£20** to the sender of the next highest correct forecasts on a mauve coupon.

The **£50** and **£20** are extra prizes—the sender of a mauve coupon has the same opportunity as JOHN BULL readers of winning the **£1,750, the £500, the £300** and **£100,** but should a mauve coupon win or share any of these chief prizes—the **£50** and **£20** will then be awarded to the sender of the **two next** most correct mauve coupons. **Thus, in any event two big cash prizes must be won by mauve coupons.** The second mauve coupon appears in "Mary Bull" this week—on sale Friday, November 21st.



After you have filled up your entries for this competition, turn to page 794, where you will find particulars of "Bullets," a simple and attractive competition which you should not fail to enter. A first prize of £500 in cash is offered this week, in addition to more than 5,000 cash and other valuable prizes.

THE "JOHN BULL" FOOTBALL CUP SWEEPSTAKE.

We must refer all readers who have written for particulars of this Sweepstake to Messrs. SMALLMAN & TERRY, GENEVA, SWITZERLAND.

LAYS OF A LONELY LONDONER.

BY BILL THE BUSMAN.

THE "MOVING" STORY OF A FOOTBALL PLAYER.

All football clubs like first-class men,
Whenever they can get 'em,
And we were proud of Johnny Troggs
Down our way, which is Streatham.

When Johnny blossomed as a pro.,
His praises still we sung them,
But Tott'n'am Whatspurs claimed that he
Was born and bred among them.

They called our John a local youth,
In high repute they'd hold him,
Until one day, for want of brass
To Brummagem they sold him.

They put him in their county team—
Him that was born in Surrey,
Then, one fine day, to Shuddersfield
Transferred him in a hurry.

But John he grinned and played his best,
And didn't get excited
Next year when he was told to shift
To Lanchester United.

In Lanchester he won all hearts,
For John they did admire
Because he was one of themselves,
A lad of Lancashire!

Last week he kicked; he said to me
He thought it would be hard if
The rumour should prove true that he
Would be transferred to Mardiff.

A pro's life's not all honey, and
Imagination quails
At John of Streatham, speaking Welsh
And being capped for Wales!

WHAT IS YOUR NUMBER?

EVERY COPY of JOHN BULL bears upon its cover a distinctive number, and every week FIFTY of such numbers will be drawn and PUBLISHED IN THE FOLLOWING ISSUE.

To each of the holders of copies of JOHN BULL *of specified date*, bearing any of such numbers, we will, upon production **within seven days of publication** (a reasonable extension will be allowed to foreign and Colonial claimants) of a sufficient portion of the cover to identify the date and number pay the sum of TWO GUINEAS in return for his using his best endeavour for one week to increase our circulation. Before the money is paid we require a full report of all the work done.

The following correct claims have been received:—

Mr. J. BENNETT, 2, Gosport St., Newbarns, Barrow-in-Furness. November 1st. No. 101,316.

Mr. S. HOUSE, 3, Oriental St., Shirley, Southampton. October 25th. No. 411,828.

Mr. F. R. BAIRD, 11a, Pavilion Tce., Wood Lane, W. November 1st. No. 642,343.

Mr. F. WREN, 113, New Kent Rd., S.E. November 8th. No. 774,719.

Mr. T. MAYERS, 24, Algernon St., Off Platt Lane, Hindley, near Wigan. November 1st. No. 148,171.

Mr. C. R. CLORAN, 71, Patshall Rd., Kentish Town, N.W. November 1st. No. 763,939.

Mr. W. WHITTAKER, 337, Fairfield Rd., Droylsden, Manchester. November 1st. No. 562,696.

Mr. A. LEE, 2, Institute Rd., Llwynypia, Glam. October 18th. No. 114,184.

Mr. A. BARTRAM, 16, New St., St. John's Wood, N.W. October 11th. No. 245,678.

Mr. H. JONES, 96, Salop St., Dudley. October 18th. No. 431,343.

Mr. A. MUDDLE, Sunny Dean, 5, Milldown Rd., Seaford, Sussex. November 1st. No. 729,603.

Mr. E. C. GIBBARD, 24, Station Rd., Braintree, Essex. November 1st. No. 241,124.

Mrs. E. HERMAN, 129, Broughton Lane, Manchester. October 25th. No. 822,911.

Mr. A. T. COLEMAN, 51, Queen St., Exeter. October 25th. No. 591,893.

Mr. S. A. FITCH, 14, Brighton Rd., Redhill. October 11th. No. 751,061.

The following are the fifty numbers for our issue of November 15th:—

005827	181506	427841	636479	850279
035523	194702	444791	643240	865851
061282	229804	474282	648505	879895
076230	236588	490764	677575	912396
097492	250775	510212	707063	945130
125228	256402	530999	731870	968742
132548	315978	542342	749753	996366
137744	344232	573497	767221	A002631
143675	372364	591500	809370	A006742
149723	384743	611033	835350	A009581

The A prefixed to the drawn numbers indicates it is plus a million.

The Fifty Numbers in respect of this week will be announced in our next issue (published on November 26th).

Insomnia, Nervous Depression.

Mr. FRANKLYN BELLAMY, of the London Opera House, writes:—

"Depression, Insomnia, Loss of Appetite and General Nervous Irritability sent me to a medical man, who stated that I was on the border of a nervous breakdown, and advised me a course of your excellent Phosferine. I had taken all sorts of so-called nerve tonics without any resultant benefit, but acting upon my Doctor's advice, I obtained a supply of your remedy, and took it regularly. I cannot sufficiently express my gratitude for the miraculous relief and quick recovery I experienced from its use. Now I am so fit that nine to ten performances a week at the London Opera House are easily gone through without a trace of the old feeling of depression or nervous overstrain."—15th September, 1913.

No other medicine has received such absolute proof of its extraordinary properties in restoring Shattered Constitutions, and in giving back to the prematurely aged New Life and Energy.

CAUTION.

There is only one Phosferine—beware of illegal imitations—do not be misled by PHOSPH THIS or PHOSPH THAT, but get

PHOSFERINE

The Greatest Tonic and Digestive.

Has been supplied by Royal Commands to

The Royal Family
H.I.M. the Empress of Russia
H.M. the King of Spain
H.M. the Queen of Spain
H.M. the late King of Greece
H.M. the Queen of Roumania, etc.

The 2/9 size contains nearly four times the 1/1½ size.

GRAVES GRAMOPHONES

The Great Argument for the Graves Gramophone is that it fills your hours of fireside leisure with delightful interest, recreation and amusement, and enables you to entertain your friends and family circle as often as you like with an inexhaustible feast of the Finest Musical Talent before the public. All the high-salaried Comedians and Society Entertainers, the front rank Musical Comedy Favourites, the Stars of the Operatic Stage, the World's most highly-gifted Concert Artistes, and the most eminent Bands and Orchestras of every Musical Nation on Earth will minister to your pleasure and entertainment.

Just picture to yourself the solid enjoyment of an evening's programme fairly chock full of the liveliest, merriest, and most musical performances of the cleverest Artistes in the entertainment profession. The latest Ragtime Revels, the finest Military and Orchestral Bands, Jovial Comic Songs, Pathetic Ballads, Fascinating Dance Music, Inspiring Patriotic Songs, the Noblest Works of the great Composers, and everything which can elevate, entertain and amuse, is for your enjoyment in boundless variety and the richest abundance.

FOR ONLY **5/-** WITH ORDER

THE GRAVES GRAMOPHONE is our own exclusive design, and is fitted with all the latest improvements and most recent perfections. The accumulated experience of years of progress is concentrated in this magnificent machine, and in its present perfected form is the greatest popular-priced Gramophone Triumph which the combined Enterprise, Brains, and Capital of the Gramophone-building Industry is capable of producing.

You get the real thing on the GRAVES GRAMOPHONE

'The Machine of Quality.'

THE CABINET is of handsome and original design, solidly built from finely-marked **Dark Oak**, brilliantly polished, and embellished with a tasteful **Art Metal Panel.** Cabinet dimensions: 12½ × 12½ × 6½ inches. **Powerful silent Steel Motor** with splendid reserve of power. Nickel-plated graduated Tone Arm, 10in Turntable, handsome 16in Seamless **Sound Trumpet,** decorated in a charming combination of harmoniously blended Art Shades. **Sound Producer** of extraordinary power and marvellously sensitive, which reproduces Full Military Band Performances with all their original brilliance and realism, and the actual living voices of the World's Greatest Singers.

THIS IS YOUR OPPORTUNITY. Unless you have heard an up-to-date Graves Gramophone you can have no idea of the marvellous pitch of perfection to which this wonderful machine has now been brought. It opens out a new World of interest and pleasure, it brings you in touch with the cleverest artistes in every branch of Musical Art, and it provides your family with an entirely fresh delight which will make your home circle the happiest spot on earth.

WE DELIVER this **powerful high-grade Gramophone,** with TEN magnificent 10in Disc Record Selections, 200 Natural Tone Needles in polished compartment case, and all accessories, insured and carriage paid to approved orders for **5/-** NOW. The balance payable in nine monthly payments of **5/-** if you are entirely satisfied and delighted with the Machine and Records after examination in your home.

WRITE FOR NEW CATALOGUE. A Post Card will bring you per return our superbly illustrated **Art Catalogue,** which is a complete guide to the latest and best productions of the Gramophone Industry. This masterly work is the finest publication ever issued in the Gramophone interest. It gives you in a clear, understandable way a wealth of useful and practical information of immense value to all who take an interest in these fascinating instruments. Every style is illustrated, and full detailed specifications of every model are given. Keenest rock-bottom prices and convenient Monthly Payment Terms are quoted for each machine. **2/-** in the **£** Discount for Cash with Order.

IMPORTANT. All Gramophone Owners should write for our Catalogue of Disc Records. **4000** Selections. The most varied and complete repertoire of high-grade Records ever published. Twenty or Thirty Selections, according to your own choice, for **3/-** NOW, and Monthly Payments after delivery if you are entirely satisfied after full trial in your own home.

J. G. GRAVES Ltd. SHEFFIELD.

CITY NOTES.

[*For Financial and Insurance Letter-Box, see page 792.*]

The Stock Markets.

It is a sign of the times that most of the recent new loans have improved to par to over, indicating a return of confidence on the part of investors. The keenest interest is being taken on both sides of the Channel in the new French loan, and it is generally believed that this will have the effect of attracting the gold hoarded in France, and thus relieving the whole international monetary situation. Of course, the loan is bound to go well, and should encourage our French neighbours to return to the stock markets. A good deal of attention is being directed to Home Rails in view of the fact that quotations are now at the lowest level for some years, and it is conceded that if labour ceased from troubling, there would be every reason for a very sharp rise. One of the features of the week has been the remarkable revulsion of feeling as regards Mexican Rails and other Mexican securities; the Bears have been severely handled, and look like getting further punishment if matters between the United States and Mexico are settled. The American market has also been governed largely by the Mexican situation, but there are those in Wall Street who predict a boom if the Mexican tangle is straightened out. Active preparations are now in progress in Montreal for the Canadian banks' annual statements, and it is possible that there may be further money squeezes and consequent liquidation of stocks before these institutions have adjusted their accounts. The outlook in the iron and steel trade seems to be very unfavourable, with the result that the South Durham Directors' Report, although showing a dividend of 25 per cent. for the past year, as compared with 20 per cent. for the preceding year, has fallen quite flat. At the recent meeting of the Amalgamated Properties of Rhodesia some optimistic statements were made by the chairman regarding the prospect of land development in Rhodesia, and particularly of ranching, in connection with which this company is already forming a subsidiary. The ever-recurring dulness of Chartered, however, is for the present acting as a wet blanket upon the market. The Rubber Growers' Association scheme is on the point of issue, and when this appears it will be possible to better judge of the outlook. The oil share market continues to broaden, and quite a large business has been transacted, with operators keenly searching for shares which have not yet participated in the rise. We deal with the subject more fully below, and are still of the opinion that this will be one of the principal markets of the future, the demand for oil seeming to grow with every new field that is discovered.

Activity in Oils.

While markets generally are in an extremely languid and depressed condition a great deal of interest has been displayed in the Oil section, and on several evenings recently the portion of "the Street" devoted to this department has been thronged with dealers till a late hour. One of the principal features has been the advance in Maikop Premiers, which could have been bought a few weeks ago at 4s. or 5s. and are now more than double that price, and it looks as though they might lead a revival in the whole Maikop field. There are rumours that the company is to be acquired by the Anglo-Maikop, but apart from that the output has been increasing in a very encouraging manner. Perhaps the most promising feature about the production is that when No. 4 well was brought into bearing in the middle of August, instead of diminishing the flow from No. 3 well, the latter has been steadily increasing. No. 5 well will be completed shortly, and there is every reason to expect a still larger output when that occurs.

Taverner *in Excelsis*.

We have received a copy of the October issue of the *Pension Record, the Magazine of the Middle Age Pension Society*. In its sixteen pages Taverner out-Taverner's himself to an extent almost incredible to those who do not know him for what he is; but we must defer for the present entering into details as to his arrogance. We note under the heading "Editorial" that the Committee supply "green envelopes" for the return to members of their quarterly receipts. The colour seems well chosen. "Green goods" for "Greenhorns" have been Taverner's stock-in-trade ever since he conceived the ramp.

Prospectusless Companies.

Great interest has been aroused by the disciplinary action of the Stock Exchange Committee in connection with the "introduction" of American Marconi shares to the market. The penalty of five years' suspension imposed on three leading jobbers is the most severe that can be inflicted short of expulsion, and there is a good deal of uncertainty as to whether it is the system, rather than the individual, that has been so strongly condemned. No doubt the American Marconi case was a particularly flagrant one, but the whole method of putting shares on the market, without the safeguards provided by the issue of a prospectus, is utterly indefensible, and we hope that the action of the Committee in this instance may be taken as an indication that it intends to deal drastically with the question. It is quite true that a few really good shares have been "introduced" to the market, but even in these cases the public are heavily penalised at the start, and in the great majority they are deliberately robbed. Shares thus brought to the public notice are almost invariably introduced at a more or less fictitious premium, and as they are practically all under one control it is the simplest thing in the world to make it appear, for a time, as though they were going still higher. When a sufficient number has been planted on the public, or it is seen that the shares won't go, support is withdrawn and the market collapses like a house of cards. When a prospectus is issued not only have directors to make themselves responsible to a certain extent for the statements contained in it, but the public have the opportunity of getting in on ground floor terms. This problem of controlling the prospectusless company is not an easy one for the Stock Exchange to tackle, but it will have to be faced if public confidence in the fair dealing of the House is to be restored.

Consolidated Oil Fields of South Africa, Ltd.

We are officially informed that oil and gas has been found freely on one of the properties controlled by this Company, and their engineer states that the prospects of finding payable oil are very good.

Rhodesian Land Titles

Co-incident with the publication in our last issue of a paragraph on the Rhodesian Land scheme comes a pamphlet written by Mr. John Barklie, a solicitor of standing, who has studied the whole question as to the alleged ownership of the soil in Southern Rhodesia by the Chartered Company. Mr. Barklie, who practises in Buluwayo, appears to have taken an immense amount of trouble to trace the history of the concessions under which the company acquired certain rights in that country, and of the Charter under which it administers them, and the conclusion at which he has arrived is that the ground-landlords are the natives, and that the Company are mere leaseholders, without any right to sell land in freehold. In view of the gravity of the question, it is to be hoped that the Company and its advisers will take an early opportunity of challenging these facts, and in the meantime the public will, no doubt, refrain from putting more money into Rhodesian land schemes.

Drift, Drift, Drift!

There has recently been held an ordinary general meeting of an alleged gold-mining company, whose history reads, shortly, as follows:—1879, formation of Rio Grande do Sul (Brazil) Gold Mining Co., Ltd.; 1883, wound up, assets passing into possession of other companies; 1901, formation of Vista Allegre Gold Mining Estate, Ltd. to acquire the properties; January, 1909, name changed to Brazilian Goldfields, Ltd.; August, 1909, portion of properties sold to Brazilian Golden Hill, Ltd.; May, 1912, Receiver appointed to Brazilian Golden Hill, Ltd. and its assets sold on behalf of debenture-holders; October 29th, 1913, meeting of Brazilian Goldfields, Ltd., summoned to receive directors' and auditors' reports. The former stated that the company is entirely without funds, and that the board has been unsuccessful in raising any, that no payable gold has been found and that the company's holding of Brazilian Golden Hills is valueless. The auditors report that they have been obliged to take for granted the correctness of the bank balance, that vouchers showing receipts and expenditure are missing, that no inventories of assets have been produced to them, nor certain allotment sheets. It was in these circumstances that shareholders met last week and decided, upon the recommendation of the directors, to allow the company to continue to drift on in an aimless and helpless fashion. The reason for this curious decision must be that no one retains sufficient interest in the concern to consider it worth while to have its affairs investigated by the Board of Trade.

For Result of Football Competition No. 4, see page 761.

How to Completely Overcome

TOBACCO HABIT

ATTAINED AT LAST—

A SUCCESSFUL REMEDY

VICTORY IN 3 DAYS

Read These Testimonials. They are but a few from Legions

NO LONGER WANTS A PIPE.

Mr. M. Denford, Merton, Devon, writes: "I took **your 3 days' C Treatment,** and am very pleased to testify that it **completely took away the craving for tobacco,** and I am also glad to say that I am **feeling in much better health than I have for many a day.** I have never once had a crave for the pipe since the first day I started taking your treatment."

CHEWED AND SMOKED FOR 25 YEARS.

Mr. Wm. Courtney, Mostyn, writes: "I had been a heavy smoker and chewer for 25 years. I am proud to say that since taking your C Treatment the craving has entirely gone. I am a cured man with a clear brain and elastic step."

USED TOBACCO FOR 20 YEARS.

Mr. J. G. Guest, King's Norton, writes: "I write to tell you that your remedy for the Tobacco Habit has cured me entirely, and I have **no desire to smoke** at all now. It seems a marvel to give up the habit so easily after being addicted for a good 20 years."

NO LONGER WANTS CIGARETTES.

Mr. H. Thistlethwaite, Burnley, Lancs, writes: "Please accept my sincere thanks for your C Treatment. It has cured me of the Tobacco Habit, and I have no further desire for cigarettes. You can make what use you like of this letter, and you can refer anyone you like to me."

SMOKED 100 CIGARETTES WEEKLY.

Mr. G. Stables, Horsforth, writes: "I feel that I must write and let you know the result of your C Treatment, which has been a success. I used to smoke about 100 cigarettes per week, and the craving for them was very great: but before I had finished your three days' treatment I had lost all desire to smoke and I must say that I feel much better now that I no longer smoke."

HEAVY SMOKER OF CIGARETTES.

Mr. J. Sneyd, Redruth, writes: "Your C Treatment is all that you claim it to be. I was a heavy smoker of cigarettes, but I now have no more desire to smoke, and I thank you very much for what your C Treatment has done for me."

LOST ALL DESIRE FOR TOBACCO.

Mrs. R. Roberts, Cinderford, writes: "I am writing to say my husband has entirely lost all desire for tobacco since taking your C Set of Remedies. He has not touched tobacco in any form since he started taking them, and although he had a box of cigars sent to him, he has no desire whatever to smoke them."

GLAD TO SAVE MONEY.

Mr. James Ritchie, Aberdeen, N.B., writes: "Your C Treatment has proved excellent. I have no desire for tobacco now. I am very glad to be rid of the habit, because I can very well do with the money which I used to waste on tobacco."

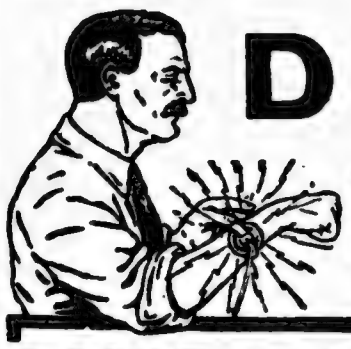
ALL DESIRE OR CRAVING IS REMOVED FOR Pipe, Cigars, Chewing Tobacco, Cigarettes, Snuff.

I offer a genuine guaranteed remedy for tobacco or snuff habit in 72 hours. It is mild, pleasant, strengthening. Overcomes that peculiar **nervousness** and craving for **cigarettes, cigars, pipe, chewing tobacco,** or **snuff.** Tobacco is **poisonous** and seriously **injures the health** in several ways, causing such disorders as nervous dyspepsia, **sleeplessness,** gas, belching, **gnawing,** or other uncomfortable sensation in stomach, **constipation, headache, weak eyes, loss of vigour, red spots on skin, throat irritation, catarrh, asthma, bronchitis, heart failure, lung trouble, melancholy,** neurasthenia, loss of memory and will power, impure (poisoned) blood, rheumatism, lumbago, sciatica, neuritis, **heartburn, torpid liver, loss of appetite,** bad teeth, **foul breath,** lassitude, **lack of ambition,** weakening and falling out of hair, and many other disorders. **It is unsafe and torturing** to attempt to cure yourself of tobacco and snuff habit by suddenly stopping—don't do it. The correct method is to **eliminate the nicotine poison** from the system, strengthen the weakened, irritated membranes, and gradually overcome the craving. You can quickly and easily quit tobacco and enjoy yourself a thousand times better while feeling always in robust health. My FREE book tells all about the **wonderful 3 days' method.** Inexpensive, reliable. Also **Secret Method** for conquering habit in another, **without his knowledge.** Full particulars, including my **Book** on **Tobacco** and **Snuff Habit,** mailed in plain wrapper, **free.** Address:

TOBACCO HABIT CONQUERED IN 72 HOURS

FREE

EDWARD J. WOODS, 10, NORFOLK ST. (306 T.S.), LONDON, W.C.



DRIVE It Out

DON'T BE TORTURED BY RHEUMATISM.

The only way to get rid of rheumatism is to drive it out. You can't do that by doing your stomach with drugs or rubbing the skin off your body with liniments. Electricity is the only thing that soaks right in and forces the poisonous uric acid out of your system. It does this gently and quickly.

Apply the "Ajax" body Battery for an hour while you rest. It will fill your nerves and vitals with new life, and after a few more applications you will be free from pains and aches.

The "Ajax" is the most successful device for infusing electricity into the body. It generates a steady, unbroken current of electric life and sends it coursing through the nerves and blood without the slightest shock (shocking currents should never be applied to the human body). All you have to do is to adjust the battery and turn on the current.

The "Ajax" Battery has cured some of the worst cases of rheumatism after drugs and other methods have failed. When electricity goes into the body, rheumatism must go out.

FREE TO YOU

We want every rheumatic, every weak, ailing man or woman to call or send for our 80-page illustrated book, which tells how electricity cures, how to get well and keep well. We'll post this book to any address, free, if you cannot call for a free test, so write at once.

THE BRITISH ELECTRIC INSTITUTE,

(Dept. 41.) **25, Holborn Viaduct, London, E.C.** (AJAX, LTD.)

HOW TO GET RID OF CATARRH.

A Simple, Safe, Reliable Way, and it Costs Nothing to Try.

Those who suffer from catarrh know its miseries. There is no need of this suffering. You can get rid of it by a simple, safe, inexpensive, home treatment discovered by Dr. Blosser, who, for over thirty-six years, has been treating catarrh successfully.

His treatment is unlike any other. It is not a spray, douche, salve, cream, or inhaler, but is a more direct and thorough treatment than any of these. It cleans out the head, nose, throat and lungs so that you can again breathe freely and sleep without that stopped-up feeling that all catarrh sufferers have. It heals the diseased mucous membranes and arrests the foul discharge, so that you will not be constantly blowing your nose and spitting, and at the same time it does not poison the system and ruin the stomach, as internal medicines do.

If you want to test this treatment without cost, send your address to Dr. Blosser, Ltd., (Depot 21B.), 8, Bouverie Street, London, E.C., who will send you by return post enough of the medicine to satisfy you that it is all they claim for it as a remedy for catarrh, catarrhal headaches, catarrhal deafness, asthma, bronchitis, colds and all catarrhal complications. They will also send you free an illustrated booklet. Write them immediately.

On sale at Boots' and other chemists' shops.

IS YOUR HEART BAD?

Feel your pulse. Is it regular? Do you ever have Palpitation, Shortness of Breath, Skipping a Beat, Cold Hands or Feet, Pains under the Left Shoulder Blade, Trouble in Lying on Left Side, Dizzy Spells, Drowsiness after Eating, Violent Starts in your Sleep, Fulness in the Throat, Neuralgia around the Heart?

If you have any of these symptoms, is it not time to correct them?

Our Oxien has proved an almost infallible cure of Functional Heart Trouble. Let us send you a **free packet,** that you may, **without cost,** try its effects upon your trouble.

We will send the week's **Trial Treatment,** relying on your telling your friends if it does you good. Full particulars of use and some of the cures with every package. It costs you nothing to try.

THE GIANT OXIE CO. Ltd. (Dept. 222 FF), 8, Bouverie Street, London, E.C.

FREE BOX OXIEN.

JOHN BULL'S FINANCIAL AND INSURANCE LETTER-BOX.

Letters containing inquiries must be addressed to the City Editor, JOHN BULL, 52, New Broad Street, E.C. The names and addresses of correspondents must be enclosed, not, of course, for publication, but in token of good faith. Anonymous communications will be disregarded.

A Postal Order for 1s. must accompany each Financial or Insurance Inquiry.

RECEIVER'S COSTS.—ANXIOUS (Pendleton).—The costs of a receiver as well as those of a liquidator form a first charge on the assets, and are paid in priority to any claims.

ROUMANIAN OIL WELLS INVESTMENT CO.—W. E. P. (Somerset).—We dealt with this Company in our issue of November 8, and expressed a favourable opinion as to its future We have returned the papers you sent us.

GALICIAN OIL LANDS AND ROYALTIES TRUST.—ST. ANDREW.—We think the Company has good prospects of success.

OUTSIDE BROKERS.—HAD (Crewe).—We believe that these people are still carrying on their dubious business, but we doubt whether they are worth powder and shot. If you start an action against them they will probably plead the Gaming Act, and if you win the day the odds are against your being able to get anything. Let it be a lesson to you for another time. The other outside firm, as far as we are aware, are meeting their engagements, but the principle of this kind of business is obviously unsound.

PLEASURE INVENTIONS, ETC.—C. H. H. (Manchester).—We are afraid that the shares in this Company, and its allied concerns, are worth about as much as the paper upon which they are printed. No information is available as regards their position and prospects, and there is no market in the shares.

REDEEMABLE STOCKS.—AFRICANDER.—The following selection should answer your purpose:—Cape Town 4 per cent. Debentures, red. 1943, at 96; Dunedin 4 per cent. Collective Loan, red. 1934, at 93; Johannesburg 4 per cent. Inscribed, red. 1933-4, at 97; Melbourne 4 per cent. Debentures, red. 1915-22, at 97 xd.; Town of Maisonneuve 4½ per cent. Debentures, red. 1949-59, at 92 xd.; Edmonton 4½ per cent Debentures, red. 1932-52, at 91; South Melbourne 4½ per cent. Debentures, red. 1919, at 101; Wellington 4½ per cent. Debentures, red. 1933, at 99 xd.; and Wynberg 4½ per cent. Registered, red. 1937, at 96.

UNITED ALKALI PREFS.—E. M. F. (North Shields).—It is poor consolation for us to tell you that since you wrote there has been a further fall in the price to about 7. The outlook for the concern seems to be very unfavourable, and you had perhaps better realise while you can.

G. BEER.—SPERO.—You are quite right in your remarks, but before you can do anything in the matter you should combine with other Ordinary shareholders with the object of taking effective action. It is certainly time that the Ordinary shareholders received something in the way of a dividend.

ILARO RUBBER.—HAD (Stroud Green).—You are quite right in your view regarding this concern, but having sold the shares, of which you can no doubt give proof, you should defend the action, and produce your proofs in court. The purchaser is, of course, liable for the final call.

CANADIAN INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT.—E. P. O. (Bournemouth).—It is a pity that on the strength of a mere circular you subscribe to shares of this kind, and trust to luck that it is all right. We are afraid that you will be disappointed, and advise you not to pay any more money. If you send us the circular in question we may be able to advise you further. In the meantime, if any more money is demanded, do not pay it.

ASSOCIATED COUNTY HALLS.—LEMON.—We have no good opinion of this Company. At the same time, it would be jumping out of the frying-pan into the fire to have anything to do with the other kind of people, and perhaps make yourself liable for all kinds of expenses. Finsbury Park is not exactly identified with the seat of critical finance.

CO-PARTNERSHIP TENANTS.—LOAN STOCK.—There is little information available regarding this concern, which, however, has paid dividends of 5 per cent. per annum since its incorporation in 1907. The worst of this kind of holding there is no free market.

DEPOSIT OF £100.—CAREFUL.—You cannot do better than deposit the money with the John Bull Bank, Old Jewry, London, E.C. Quite safe and good interest.

JOHN BULL BANK.—L. T. D. (Luton).—Yes; see reply to "Careful."

ALGOMA CENTRAL AND HUDSON'S BAY RAILWAY.—H. P. S. (Crouch End).—All Canadian investments are not tarred with the same brush. It is quite correct that this Company has received a cash subsidy as well as a land grant. It is controlled by the Lake Superior Corporation, who guarantee the principal and interest of the Bonds. The latter are a fair investment of their kind, but come only within the second-rate category.

ARTHUR C. PEARSON.—G. R. (Birmingham).—Many a Company has come to grief over the question of Depreciation, and there is a good deal of justification for your remarks. Your best plan is to raise the question at the next meeting of shareholders, unless you can obtain an explanation from the Secretary of the Company.

£100 A YEAR INCOME.—ANXIOUS (Norton).—Your plan to secure such a joint income is a satisfactory one, viz., a Post Office annuity, and North-Eastern and Great Northern guaranteed stocks. There might be further depreciation in capital value of the latter, but their security is unimpeachable.

LONDON AND MANCHESTER INDUSTRIAL ASSURANCE.—J. F. (Reading). We should say that the premiums are recoverable on the ground that the policy gives no legal title or consideration to the daughter for the money paid.

LIVERPOOL VICTORIA INSURANCE CORPORATION.—H. M. (Woolwich).—In the circumstances you mention we should be inclined to drop the policy and insure elsewhere.

PROVIDENT ASSOCIATION OF LONDON.—JOHN BROWN.—We see no reason to modify the opinion we have expressed that loans obtained under their Investment House Property Policies are expensive and inequitable from the borrower's point of view. Our assertion that the Association has been greatly enriched through the enormous number of Bonds which have lapsed also holds good, notwithstanding the "special offer for revival of certificates which have been lapsed for a period not exceeding three years." Apply for the prospectus of the National Freehold Land and Building Society, Moorgate Street, London, E.C.——B. G. (Liverpool).—If the policy you hold is a Life Assurance Policy providing for payment of the sum assured, and bonus additions in the event of a claim arising, we see no reason why it should not be continued.

BRITANNIC ASSURANCE CO.—S. C. (Bow).—You do not give any reason why this Company has refused to admit the claim which has arisen owing to the death of the person on whose life you held a policy. See the local superintendent and request the return of the policy and other papers, and let us have them for inspection.

COLLECTING SOCIETY.—FATHER.—You inform us that on presenting a claim for £9 you are offered £2 5s. only, on the ground that since your son joined the rules have been altered. The extraordinary number of complaints we have received in regard to the cutting down of original benefits is a very disquieting feature, and makes the case for State insurance stronger every day. You should lodge a protest against the attempt to force you to accept one quarter benefit, and let us know how you get on.

SCOTTISH INDEMNITY INSURANCE CO.—S. M. P. (Poole).—You appear to have been very shabbily treated by this concern in respect of your claim for compensation through illness. After an official had called upon you, you received an assurance that the claim would be met, but it still remains unsatisfied. You have been put to a good deal of legal expense which you can ill afford, and you are informed that you cannot take the case into court because the policy conditions provide that disputes must be settled by arbitration. We are amazed at the suffering and worry you have been caused owing to the heartless way you have been treated by this Company, and your case undoubtedly demands rigid investigation. We should not accept the £4 offered. Send us the policy and any correspondence you have. Going out of the house in a bath-chair for treatment at the hospital would not invalidate the claim. If you fail to obtain satisfaction after this exposure of the Company's methods, apply to the magistrate at the local County Court for advice.

SUN LIFE OF CANADA.—DRUID.—The terms for annuities are determined by the rate of interest obtainable upon the funds of the Company, and it is because higher rates of interest can be obtained in Canada than in this country that the Canadian offices are enabled to offer annuities on more favourable terms than the leading British offices. We certainly think your friend would be quite safe in purchasing an annuity from this Company, which is ably and skilfully managed and financially sound. We are personally of opinion, however, that Canadian securities are not at all an attractive form of investment at the present time, but the directors of the Sun Life and other Canadian Life Assurance Companies are doubtless carefully watching the trend of events, and will assess the value of their securities at a figure year by year which will always ensure the solidity of their investments and the maintenance of their Companies in a position of financial strength.

FIRE INSURANCE.—A. Z. (Glasgow).—Of the two Companies you mention we prefer the former, which is well established and strong financially.

INDUSTRIAL INDEMNITY CORPORATION.—INQUISITIVE.—There is no information in the papers you enclose concerning its financial standing, and it is not mentioned in the usual reference books. If your claim is not satisfactorily and promptly dealt with, instruct a solicitor to act for you.

BRITISH SECURITY INSURANCE CO.—MOTORIST.—You have not enclosed the prospectus, but we believe the flotation of this proposed Company has been in hand for a considerable period. The promoter is an experienced insurance man, but all new enterprises of this character are necessarily speculative, and, in all the circumstances, we are inclined to advise you to hold off and adopt the "wait and see" attitude. We think you could find a more remunerative opening for your time and capital.

ROYAL SOVEREIGN INSURANCE SOCIETY.—EARLY N'A.—We are not favourably impressed with the idea of "insurance policies against a certain amount of rain falling between given periods." We are not fastidious, but the line must be drawn somewhere, and this innovation, which is nothing but a gamble, is likely to prove a delusion and snare in the form of extracting money from the pockets of unthinking investors. In any event, we have no information as to who are the guiding spirits behind this peculiar enterprise, or what cash reserves are available.—BINKS.—The prospectus gives no information respecting the ability of this Society, with its ambitious title, to honour its obligations The names of the directors and officers are not even mentioned. Perhaps a responsible officer of the Society will enlighten us.

COLONIAL MUTUAL LIFE ASSURANCE SOCIETY.—J. B. (Edinburgh).—We should make another selection.

ENDOWMENT ASSURANCE.—W. B. W. (Banffshire).—The Companies you mention are in the front rank and quite safe.

INSURANCE QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS—NOTICE TO OUR READERS.

Owing to the enormous number of enquiries we receive on Insurance matters, our readers will appreciate the difficulty which confronts us in giving prompt replies. Indeed, the correspondence has become so great that we have decided to depart from the rule we have hitherto observed of replying only through this column, and to answer by post. Correspondents, therefore, who fail to find replies to their enquiries on this page may expect to hear from us by letter with as little delay as possible.

Do you want a Christmas Turkey? See page 794.

SHAVALLO

(SHAVE-ALL-O),

THE IDEAL SHAVING SOAP

IN AN IDEAL PACKAGE.

Begin your day well by enjoying a smooth and easy shave. Pure, emollient as cream, soothing tender skin, producing quickly a free, copious and lasting lather. Shavallo stands alone for real shaving comfort and luxury.

In white Ivorine tubes—no metal to rust and no paper to get sticky—6d. and 1s. each. Round cakes at 4½d.

For **Free Trial Sample** send one penny stamp for postage, or for standard size tube six penny stamps to

JOHN KNIGHT, LTD.,

(Dept, "J.B."),

LONDON, E.

Soapmakers by appointment to H.M. King George V.

DO YOU WANT TO BECOME A CHAUFFEUR or qualify for any position in the Motor Industry?

If so, we advise you to apply AT ONCE to the British Motor Industry's training centre. POPULAR COURSE of unlimited practical instruction in Motor Car Driving, Mechanism and running repairs on the road **until you state in writing that you are satisfied and proficient.** Lowest inclusive Fee. Highest Standard training. This Course entitles you to the certificate and free introduction to positions through the B.S.M. Employment Department licensed LONDON COUNTY COUNCIL. No extra Charges. Call or send a postcard for free prospectus (J).

THE BRITISH SCHOOL OF MOTORING,
Coventry House, 5 Coventry Street, Piccadilly Circus, London, W.

TOTALISATOR

LUCERNE.

Result MANCHESTER DRAW will appear next issue.

REAL FLESH FOOD FOUND AT LAST.

Startling Effect of New Discovery, which puts flesh on thin People, increases Weight and Rounds out the Figure.

500

2/6 PACKAGES FREE TO PROVE IT.

"My word! I never saw anything like the effects of that new treatment, Sargol, for the building up of weight and lost nerve force. It acted more like a miracle than a medicine," said a well-known gentleman yesterday in speaking of the revolution that had taken place in his condition. "I began to think that there was nothing on earth that could make me fat. I tried tonics, digestives, heavy eating diet, milk, stout, and almost everything else you could think of, but without result.

"Take Sargol. You can gain 30 lbs. in 30 days."

"I had been thin for years, and began to think it was natural for me to be that way. Finally I read about the remarkable results brought about by the use of Sargol, so I decided to try it myself. Well, when I look at myself in the mirror now I think it is somebody else. I have put on just 2st. 10 lbs. during the last month; and never felt stronger or more nervy in my life."

Sargol is a powerful inducer of nutrition, increases cell growth, makes perfect assimilation of food, increases the number of blood corpuscles, and as a necessary result builds up muscles and solid, healthy flesh, and rounds out the figure.

For women who can never appear stylish in anything they wear because of their thinness this remarkable treatment may prove a revelation. It is a beauty-maker, as well as a form builder and nerve strengthener. Men increase their nerve power as well as adding many pounds of good, healthy flesh.

It will cost you nothing to prove the remarkable effects of this treatment. It is absolutely non-injurious to the most delicate system. The Sargol Company will send to anyone who sends name and address a free 2s. 6d. package of Sargol with instructions to prove that it does the work. They will also send you their book on "Why You Are Thin," free of charge, giving facts which will probably astonish you. Send coupon below to-day with your name and address.

FREE SARGOL COUPON.

This Coupon entitles any thin person to one 2s. 6d. package of Sargol, the concentrated Flesh Food (provided you have never tried it, and that 3d. is enclosed to cover postage, packing, and so forth). Read our advertisement printed above, then put 3d. in stamps in the letter to-day with this Coupon, and the full 2s. 6d. package will be sent you by return of post.

Address: The Sargol Company (Dept. 1422), Carlton House, Great Queen Street, London, W.C.

Sargol is also sold and recommended by such high-class stores as Harrod's, Selfridge's, Wm. Whiteley's, Spiers and Pond's, Army and Navy Stores, Gamage, Ltd., Boots Cash Chemists, Taylor's Drug Stores, Lewis and Burrows, H. Hodder and other reliable stores.

WELL IN THE FRONT

FOR HONEST DEALING AND PROMPT PAYMENTS

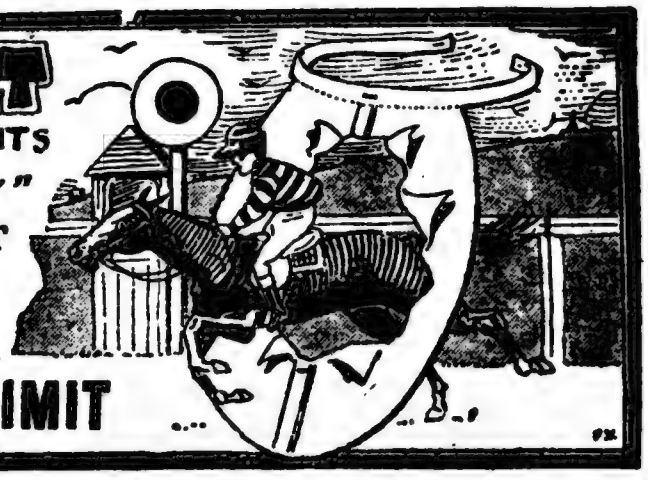
Drop a Postcard for the "Wee Tartan Book"

YOUR WINNINGS ARE SENT BY FIRST POST AFTER THE RACE IS OVER.

JOHN McLAUCHLAN LETTER COMMISSIONS FROM 1/- TO ANY AMOUNT.

"Not represented on any Racecourse."

54, GORDON ST., GLASGOW. ALSO AT LUCERNE. **NO LIMIT**



CREDIT ACCOUNTS OPENED ON APPROVED REFERENCES.

GREAT INCREASE!

Our Record

1,000 XMAS

First Prize £500

2nd Prize £50

3rd Prize £25

20 Prizes of £2-10-0 EACH.

6323 PRIZES THIS WEEK

We are distributing as special Yuletide gifts 1,000 Xmas Turkeys. 250 ARE TO BE WON THIS WEEK. The "Bullets" Turkeys will be the finest plump birds procurable—of the highest quality—specially selected and supplied by a famous firm of Poultry dealers. The Turkeys will be despatched in ample time for the Yuletide Dinner, and winners will be notified immediately the awards are made each week. Besides these extra season-

In Addition to £500 for the Best Bullet—This Week's Prize List Includes

2nd Prize £50 : 3rd Prize £25 : 20 Prizes of £2-10

5,000 HANDSOME GIFTS! 50 Cash Prizes of 10s. E

1,000 CASH PRIZES OF 2s. 6d. AND 250 XMAS TURKEYS

Bullets can only be constructed from any of these 40 Examples:—

SHOULD WOMEN TELL	FARMER GILES	COLD MUTTON	PANEL PHYSIC
ENGLAND EXPECTS	ILL AT EASE	GASBAGS	ACCOUNTS SETTLED
THE LAST DANCE	TAKING ORDERS	PAWN TICKETS	MUSICIANS' STRIKE
WELL STUFFED	FOLLOWS SUIT	A BIG TURNOVER	NOT WORTH HAVING
RADICAL CHANGES	ROCKING THE CRADLE	REGULAR POSER	MAIDEN HANDICAP
DRESS PARADE	NOT FOUND OUT	FIRST MATE	A COMMON SIGHT
GERMAN INVASION	THE BACK WAY	ALL SAILORS LIKE	CLINGING HABITS
WHAT ULSTER WANTS	SHAKING HANDS	WINNING TRICK	NEGLECTED
NICE GIRLS	ON THE SPREE	RAPID PROMOTION	IN THE KITCHEN
GETTING THE BIRD	BARGAIN BASEMENT	WELCOME LITTLE STRANGER	BAD TREATMENT

Closing date, Wednesday, November 26th.

Example _____

Bullet _____

Example _____

Bullet _____

60 P.O. No. _____

I agree to enter this competition in accordance with the rules and conditions announced on page 795.

Signed _____

Address _____

A Sixpenny P.O. Must Accompany this Coupon.

Not more than three words may be used to construct a Bullet.

This week's Bullets Coupons will also be found in "MARY BULL," dated November 29th.

Closing date, Wednesday, November 26th.

Example _____

Bullet _____

Example _____

Bullet _____

(60) P.O. No. _____

I agree to enter this competition in accordance with the rules and conditions announced on page 795.

Signed _____

Address _____

A Sixpenny P.O. Must Accompany this Coupon.

If Both Coupons Are Used a Postal Order for 1/- Must Be Sent.

ENVELOPES SHOULD BE MARKED "BULLETS NO. 60," "JOHN BULL," LONG ACRE, LONDON, W.C.

Write "COMPETITION" on top left hand corner of Envelope.

HOW TO MAKE BULLETS.

First choose any of our forty examples. Then give two words or three words having some bearing on the example chosen. The FIRST and LAST word selected MUST begin with ANY OF THE LETTERS in the example chosen. If three words are selected any word can be used as the middle word.

For instance, if you use the example "TAKING ORDERS" and take the letters "S" and "A," using the word "always" as the middle word, you can make the "Bullet" "SHOPMEN ALWAYS AGREEABLE."

From the example "BAD TREATMENT" the "Bullet" "NEVER APPRECIATED" can be formed. Again, if you choose the example "REGULAR POSER," using the letter "P" as initial for both the first and last word, you can form the "Bullet" "PERPETUAL MOTION PROVIDES."

Competitors may send in two BULLETS on one coupon for sixpence. But if both coupons are used a postal order for one shilling must be sent

Competitors who have already won any prizes, large or small, in this competition are in no way debarred from winning again.

The ink will not run if the coupon is slightly warmed before being used.

Competitors can see The Bullets "Judges at work at any time.

The Result of this Competition will appear in our issue dated Dec. 13th. For Rules, etc., see opposite page.

"BULLETS" PRIZES!

Xmas Offer!

TURKEYS

TOTAL WEEKLY PRIZES VALUE OVER £2,000

...e prizes we shall also award 5,000 handsome gifts weekly—in ...dition to our huge cash prize list, including £500 for the Best ...llet. Thus "Bullets" creates another record by offering 6,323 ...IZES WEEKLY. VALUE OVER £2,000. This is the most ...erous and attractive offer made by any paper, and one every ...der of "John Bull" should take advantage of—and this week.

RESULT OF 57TH BULLETS COMPETITION.

IRST PRIZE OF £500 :—
Mr. J. L. HENWOOD,
125, Albert Road, Stechford, Birmingham.
...ample.—LORD CHIEF JUSTICE.
...llet.—SPECULATED, EXONERATED, ELEVATED

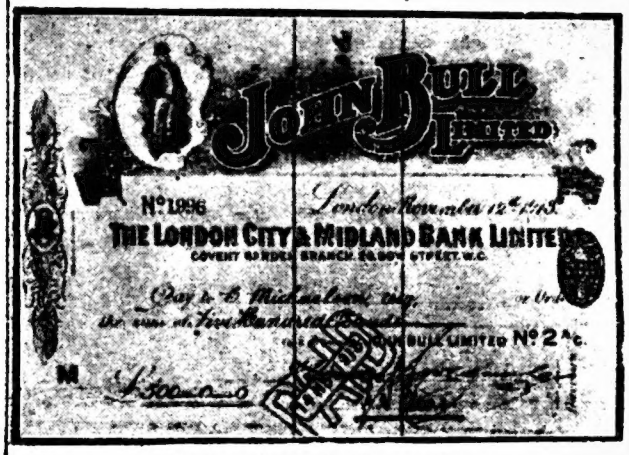
ECOND PRIZE OF £50 :—
Mr. G. E. JAMES,
10, High Street, Tooting Broadway, London, S.W.
...ample.—WHEN FORTUNE KNOCKS.
...llet.—CONGRATULATORS ANONYMOUS NEVER.

HI D PRIZE OF £25 :—
Mr. CHARLES THOMAS,
18, Albert Crescent, Penarth, S. Wales.
...ample.—MALINGERING.
...llet.—MAGNIFYING WITHOUT GLASSES.

0 PRIZEWINNERS of £5 Each.

...J. HINCHLIFFE, 918, Manchester Road, Castleton, near Manchester:
A MOTHER'S LOVE—"SMACKS" OF AFFECTION.
...t. JAS. DEVLIN R.I.C., Strabane, Co. Tyrone.
GETTING IMPATIENT—GERMANY—TALKING PEACE.
...H. HALL, 4, Thorn Grove, Fallowfield, Manchester:
GOOD IN PARTS—PRODIGY'S PIANOFORTE SOLO.
...D. M. MOIR, 124, Second Avenue, Clydebank:
LIFE'S LITTLE WORRIES—WALES PROVIDES "ONE."
...J. CLUCAS, Tramways Depot, Fareham:
LORD CHIEF JUSTICE—SO VICAR SAYS.
...A. G. SPALDING R.A.M. College, Millbank, London, S.W.
LOST IN THOUGHT—LEDGER COMMENCED "SWEETHEART."
...J. D. WILSON, 16, Grafton Street, Glasgow:
LIFE'S LITTLE WORRIES—SCARCITY OF SATURDAYS.
...S. ELKIN, 42, Ricardo Street, Dresden, Stoke-on-Trent:
TRUSTING TO PROVIDENCE—SPINSTER DROPS GLOVE.
...S. E. RUSSELL, 2, Crawley Villas, Crawley Road, Wood Green, N.:
NOT ALWAYS RELISHED—A "WHY'S" WIFE.

Sapper E. SHADGETT, R.E., Ordnance Survey Office, Southampton:
LOST IN THOUGHT—STUCK WITHOUT "SOLUTION."
Mr. W. J. CLARKE, 19, Coverdale Road, Sheffield:
A MOTHER'S LOVE—"TOPSY" NEVER HAD.
Mr. H. C. TOTTENHAM, 10, Church Terrace, Malvern Road, Cheltenham:
LORD CHIEF JUSTICE—"SILK" GONE UP.
Mr. A. J. CROOK, 31, Blythswood Street, Algburth, Liverpool:
WHAT GERMANY WANTS—ANOTHER "BLOOD MIXTURE."


JOHN BULL LIMITED
No 1996
London November 12th 1913
THE LONDON CITY & MIDLAND BANK LIMITED
COVENT GARDEN BRANCH 26 BOW STREET W.C.
JOHN BULL LIMITED No 2 &c.

Reduced facsimile of the

£500 "BULLETS" CHEQUE

paid to last week's First Prize Winner.

The original of the above cheque will be on view at the premises of Mr. J. B. Fowler, 134, Leith Street, Edinburgh, until Saturday November 22nd, and hence until November 26th at those of Mr. P. McInnes, 87, Nicolson Street, Edinburgh.

Mrs. M. W. DEDMAN, 80, Albemarle Gardens, New Malden, Surrey:
CRUSHING DEFEAT—"SPECTATORS" "DISPATCH" "REFEREE."
Mrs. M. MEIKLE, 95, Milbrae Road, Langside, Glasgow:
FILLING THE COFFER—NOTHING "LEARS OUT."
Mr. H. BROKENSHIRE, South Western Hotel, Padstow, Cornwall:
LORD CHIEF JUSTICE—RUFUS'S "SAFE" SEAT.
Mr. P. GRIFFITHS, Sunnyside, Newton, Porthcawl:
THE NEW CUT—NAKED, YET UNASHAMED!
Mr. W. J. PEARSON, Hilperton Schools, Trowbridge, Wilts.:
INTERVIEWING FATHER—"FINAL." OCCASIONAL "FOOTSTOOL."
Mr. P. R. COLLINS, Peacock Arms Hotel, Caledonian Road, N.:
LIFE'S LITTLE WORRIES—FARMERS GREATLY EXAGGERATE.
Mr. J. MITCHELL, 117, Rustlings Road, Sheffield:
WINSTON CHURCHILL—OUR "FUSSED LORD."

Selection from 50 10s. Prize Winners.

RAJAH OF SARAWAK, Stanton Harcourt, Oxford.
SCANE, A. L., Devaar, North Queensferry, Fife.
SENIOR, J., 59, Furness Road, Hackney, N.W.
SOLEY, J. 14, Seven Sisters Road, Holloway, N.
SOMERFORD, G., 15, Berrington Road, Tunbury Wells, Worcester.
SPALDING, A. G., R.A.M. College, Millbank, S.W.
SRAWLEY, W. E., 173, Bolton Road, Small Heath, Birmingham.
TAYLOR, L. G., Mrs., 15, Kingsley Road, Kings Norton, Birmingham.
TOMPSETT, N.C., Mrs., 28, Adela Avenue, New Malden, S.W.
TORMAY, E. F., Staff G.P.O., Dublin.
VOSS, C., 90, Stratford Road, West Bridgford, Notts.
WARREN, S., 126, Hoppers Road, Winchmore Hill, N.
WEBSTER, W., 48, Thornhill Road, Dewsbury.
WELLS, J. W., Fish Docks, Grimsby.
WING, FLORENCE, 58, Park Avenue, Palmer's Green, N.

"BULLETS" RULES (*which must be strictly adhered to*).

1. The First Prize will be awarded for what, in the opinion of the Editor, and his special staff of adjudicators, is the best Bullet received, and the other prizes in order of merit. In deciding prizes, originality and aptness will be taken into account. The right to divide a prize or prizes among two or more competitors is reserved.
2. Bullets must be plainly written on one of the coupons on page 794 and only two attempts may be written on each coupon.
3. Both coupons may be used, but each coupon must be accompanied by a postal order for 6d. made payable to JOHN BULL and crossed [illegible]. Competitors must write their names and addresses, and the date of sending the order on the back of the postal order, the number of which must be duly noted on each coupon submitted. Competitors sending more than one coupon may enclose one postal order for the full amount covering the number of their coupons. Stamps will not be accepted.
4. Coupons must not be defaced in any manner, or have portions of another coupon pasted upon them.
5. Entries must reach us not later than the first post on the morning of Wednesday, November 26th.
6. The Editor undertakes that every Bullet received shall have careful consideration by a competent staff of qualified judges.
7. The Editor's decision on any matter in dispute arising in connection with this competition must be accepted as final and legally binding in all respects, and acceptance of this rule is an express condition of entry.

No element of chance enters into the adjudication of our "Bullets" Competition. Every coupon is judged by TWO DIFFERENT Members of our special staff of Adjudicators, who have been elected by reason of their high qualification for this work. This staff put aside all coupons which they consider sufficiently meritorious to qualify for a prize. So that, before any coupon is rejected, TWO DIFFERENT Judges have to decide that it is not of sufficient merit to receive a prize. Then, all coupons selected are considered by the Competition Editor in consultation with the Judges. In this manner the coupons are reduced in number to correspond with the total number of prizes to be awarded. The Competition Editor, again in consultation with the Judges, next selects all lines of outstanding merit. These are placed before the Editor, who, after consultation, decides finally the order of merit. This system of judging [illegible] a large staff of Adjudicators continually occupied the whole of the week—so thoroughly is the work done. We would point out that, by this system of judging, no award is decided arbitrarily by one mind. It is only after a line has been considered sufficiently meritorious by a BODY OF JUDGES IN [illegible]NSI[illegible]TION, all of whom are specially qualified for the work, that it can receive a cash or any other prize. As regards the principal prizes, the coupons outstanding merit are considered many times by the Editor, and also by the Competition Editor and the adjudication staff, in consultation, before the final awards are made. In a sentence, ALL coupons are read and considered, and re-read and re-considered by a specially selected staff of highly-qualified Adjudicators, under the general supervision of an experienced Competition Expert—and in consultation with the Editor. That is why "Bullets" constitute a genuine skill test, free from any and every element of arbitrary decision or of chance selection.

Complete List of all cash and other Prize-winners in the above Competition can be seen at the "John Bull" Offices.

Racing Notes.

Prophetic

We found the winner of the Newbury Autumn Handicap, and now the question is what will win the big race at Manchester next Saturday. To take it in once, perhaps

FARAKABAD

is the best to stand, but Cheerful and Dalmatian should be placed,

At Warwick to-day (Wednesday) EILEEN ASTHORE C. should win the Melverton Mile Nursery; GAY BACHELOR the Leamington Selling Handicap; whilst the best thing of the day should be

LAST OF THE LENAS

for the Daventry T.Y.O. Plate

At Manchester

REDWOOD,*

if judged only on his Derby running, must in the Delamere Handicap represent the best thing of the week. LILYDALE C. has a big chance in the Eglinton Nursery, as has MOSCATO in the Brackley Handicap. On Friday, J. Cannon looks like having a couple of winners in MINEHEAD for the Flying Handicap, and MINT MASTER for the Ellesmere Handicap, but the best thing should be

HOUNAM

for the Lancashire Nursery. On Saturday, RECONDITE ought to win the Worsley Nursery, and MOHACZ the Final Plate.

There is racing at Lingfield, too, on Friday and Saturday, and there LOCH EARN for the Yewhurst Welter and

DRAUGHTSMAN

for the Medway T.Y.O. Plate look good. On Saturday, CANONITE should win the Back End Handicap.

TOTALISATOR (LUCERNE) MANCHESTER NOVEMBER HANDICAP SWEEP.

The draw for the above, the last sweepstake of the season conducted by this well-known firm, took place on Tuesday of this week, and we arranged for our representative to be present. The result will appear in next week's issue.

SPORTING REPLIES.

The names and addresses of correspondents must be enclosed, not, of course, for publication, but in token of good faith.

NEXT YEAR'S "JOHN BULL" DERBY SWEEP.—MANY INQUIRERS.—We understand that the management of the "John Bull" Derby Sweep for 1914 will be placed in the hands of Messrs. Smallman and Terry, of Geneva (who are at present conducting the "John Bull" Football Cup Sweep), they having the necessary office and staff accommodation for dealing with so important a project. It is stated that the prizes will amount to £50,000.

PATRICK O'BRIEN'S SWEEPSTAKES.—INQUIRERS.—We are also informed that Mr. O'Brien (who had the management of last year's "John Bull" Derby Sweep) will next year promote sweeps upon the Grand National, the Stewards' Cup, and the Cesarewitch—leaving the Football Cup and Derby to Messrs. Smallman and Terry, who, so far as sweeps are concerned, will probably confine their attempt to those two events.

"JOHN BULL" FOOTBALL CUP SWEEP.—T. B. (Ely).—It is obvious that anyone offering tickets at the price you mention must have obtained them improperly, and is not registering the names of purchasers. Except when buying tickets from personal friends, it is desirable that purchasers should themselves forward the coupons to Geneva, or, at any rate, see that they are forwarded. No doubt whenever specially requested, Messrs. Smallman and Terry would give the distinctive numbers of the tickets sent in.——BULLET (Reading).—Of course, you can use a *nom de plume*.—CO-OPERATIVE.—There is nothing to prevent you and your mates clubbing together and buying a few books between you, but in that case all your names and addresses should be written on the back of the ticket.——F. B. DE M. (London).—We think your best course is to remit by postal order. Register the letter.——T. R. S. (Ipswich).—The reason why the whole of the cash prizes cannot be distributed immediately after the draw is that the sixty-four clubs left in the round proper have to play until only two are left in to play the final round at the Crystal Palace. The whole of the Consolation prizes, however, will be paid at once, and the others will be distributed from time to time as the various rounds are decided, so that in the end there will be only two prizes remaining for payment.

THE TOTALISATOR (Lucerne).—BARRISTER.—If the facts be as represented to us, we think you have no clair, as you are clearly bound by the firm's rules, a copy of which we have seen, and which stipulate that telegrams must bear the name and address of the sender in cases where no code name has been arranged. We understand your telegrams were merely signed with your own name, and that the firm had a large number of the same name on their books and were consequently unable to identify the sender of the telegrams.——W. M. (Eastcheap).—We are making inquiries, but are sure that there is some explanation for the delay

F. G. HUNTER (Geneva).—W. E. H. (London).—We advise you to confine your business to old-established football firms, such as Mr. H. T. Terry, of the *Football World*, and Mr. A. F. Smallman, of the *Competitors' Journal*. In each case Geneva is sufficient address.

PEOPLE'S SPORT (Arlesheim).—J. G. (Newcastle).—You have every reason to be doubtful as to the *bona fides* of this concern, against which we have repeatedly warned our readers. Their statement that theirs is "the only Sweep controlled by the State" is all bunkum.

CALCUTTA DERBY SWEEP.—TETRARCH.—We understand that tickets are now only issued to members of the Calcutta Turf Club.

ALFRED WISEMAN (Binningen).—H. S. (Norwich).—We have no information.

JAMES FERGUSON (Birsfelden).—NO WIT.—The "Result Sheet" you send us is a travesty. We have repeatedly warned the public against this man.

SPORTING PROFIT (Birsfelden).—W. L. (Workington).—We have so often warned our readers against these people, and are not surprised that you are suspicious.

H. DIAMOND (Lucerne).—KING OF DIAMONDS (Manchester).—Once more we must repeat that we are not responsible for the opinions expressed by any other paper. We *know* that Mr. Diamond's Sweeps are straight.

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Football Selections from the Principal Papers.

Matches to be played Saturday, 22nd November, 1913.

In view of the enormous interest now taken in the competitions conducted by numerous papers, the following table of selections compiled from the principal football authorities will be found to be an extremely useful guide—

	Matches played on ground of first-named team.	Last Season's Result.	JOHN BULL	The Umpire.	News of the World.	Weekly Dispatch.	Competitors' Guide.	Sunday Citizen etc.	Sporting Gossip.	Sporting Weekly.
FIRST LEAGUE	Aston V. v. Preston North End	No match	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home
	Blackburn R. v. Sheffield W. ..	Sheffield won	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home
	Bradford City v. Bolton W. ..	Bradford won	Home	Away	Home	Home	Draw	Away	Draw	Home
	Derby Co. v. Oldham A.	Oldham won	Home	Away	Away	Draw	Draw	Draw	Home	Home
	Liverpool v. Newcastle U. ..	Liverpool won	Home	Draw	Away	Home	Draw	Draw	Home	Home
	Manchester C. v. Chelsea	Manchester C. won	Home	Home	Home	Draw	Home	Home	Home	Home
	Middlesbrough v. Burnley ..	No match	Home	Away	Home	Away	Away	Home	Draw	Home
	Sheffield United v. Manchester U.	Sheffield won	Home	Away	Away	Draw	Away	Away	Draw	Home
	Sunderland v. W. Bromwich A.	Sunderland won	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home
	Tottenham H. v. Everton	Draw	Home	Draw	Draw	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home
SECOND LEAGUE	Barnsley v. Bradford	Barnsley won	Home	Home	Home	Draw	Home	Home	Draw	Home
	Blackpool v. Leeds City	Leeds City won	Away	Away	Away	Away	Away	Away	Away	Home
	Bury v. Stockport Co.	Bury won	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home
	Fulham v. Grimsby Town	Grimsby won	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home	Draw	Home
	Huddersfield T. v. Glossop ..	Huddersfield won	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home
	Hull City v. Notts C.	No match	Home	Home	Home	Away	Draw	Home	Away	Home
	Lincoln City v. Clapton Orient ..	Draw	Draw	Draw	Home	Home	Draw	Away	Home	Home
	Notts Forest v. Bristol C.	Notts won	Home	Draw	Home	Home	Draw	Home	Home	Home
	Oldham A. v. Leicester F.	Draw	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home	Draw	Home	Draw
	Woolwich A. v. Birmingham .	No match	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home
	Bristol Rovers v. Southend U. ..	No match	Home	Away	Home	Home	Draw	Draw	Home	Home
	Merthyr Town v. Northampton ..	Merthyr won	Home	Away	Away	Draw	Home	Home	Home	Home
	West Ham U. v. Gillingham ..	West Ham won	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home
	Plymouth A. v. Norwich City ..	Plymouth won	Home	Home	Home	Draw	Home	Home	Home	Home
	Southampton v. Watford	Watford won	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home	Away	Home
	Reading v. Coventry City ..	Reading won	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home
	Queen's Pk. R. v. Crystal Palace	Queens P. R. won	Away	Away	Draw	Draw	Away	Away	Home	Away
	Swindon Town v. Brighton & H	Swindon won	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home
	Cardiff City v. Portsmouth	No match	Home	Away	Home	Home	Away	Home	Home	Home
	Exeter City v. Millwall A. ..	Millwall won	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home	Away	Draw	Home

DON'T GUESS!

When filling up your football coupons, study the unique football forecasts and table of form, as published exclusively in the great 24pp. weekly.

THE

"COMPETITORS' JOURNAL."

Our forecasts do not appear in "John Bull's" compilation of other papers' forecasts.

BULLETS.

If you enter this competition, or any other promoted by the popular weeklies, you will find the "Competitors' Journal" inval able. It was publicly stated at the "C.J." Readers' Dinner held at the Holborn Restaurant on Saturday November 8th, that up-to-date "C.J." readers had won over

£20,000

in literary contests!

Order the "C.J." through your newsagent, or it will be sent post free for one year 6s., six months 3s., three months 1s. 6d., or one month 6d. All subscribers of three months or more, are entitled to free advice under our GREAT ADVISORY SCHEME.

THE COMPETITORS' JOURNAL,
27a, Glasshouse Street, Piccadilly Circus, London, W.

WANTED!!!

All "JOHN BULL"-ITES to join the "'TERRY'-TORIAL" Ranks and shoot in the "FOOTBALL WORLD" Contests.

£350 MUST BE WON WEEKLY.

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Blackpool	v.	Leeds.
Lincoln City	v.	Clapton Orient
Notts Forest	v.	Bristol City.
Queen's Park R.	v.	Crystal Palace.
Cardiff City	v.	Portsmouth
Hibernians	v.	Airdrieonions
Motherwell	v.	Rangers.
Derby County	v.	Oldham.
Liverpool	v.	Newcastle U.
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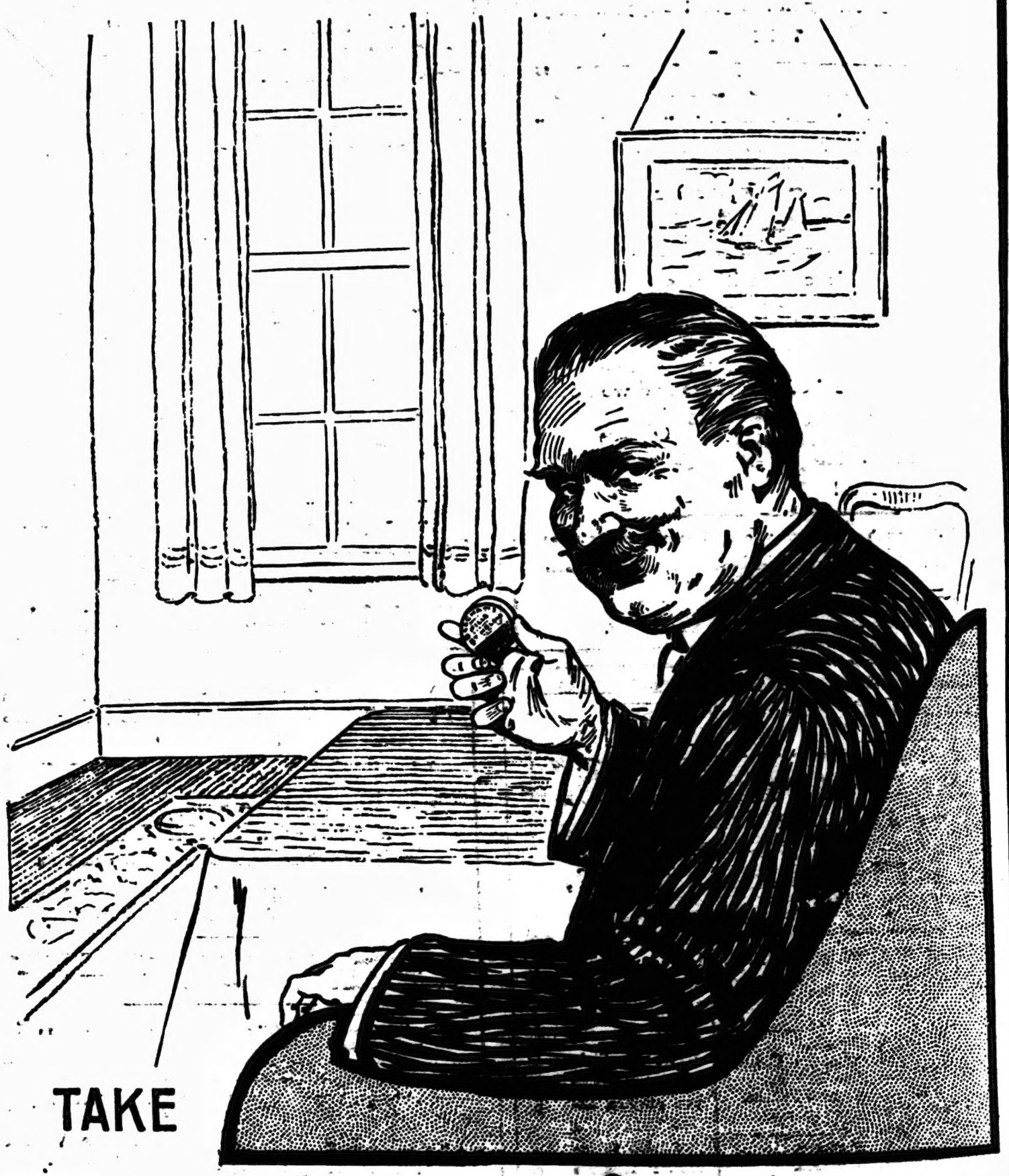

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